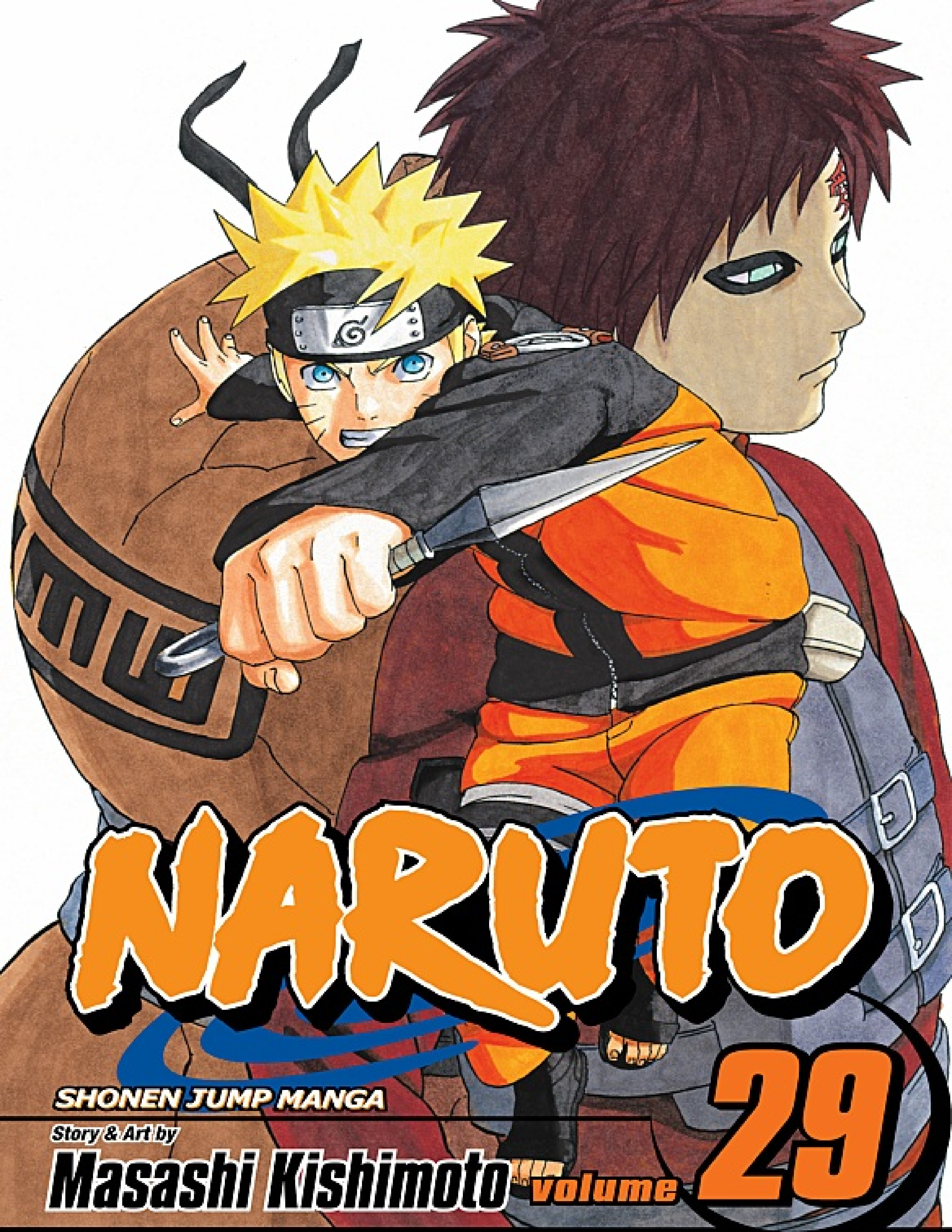
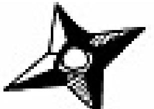

NARUTO
SHONEN JUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Masashi Kishimoto
volume
29

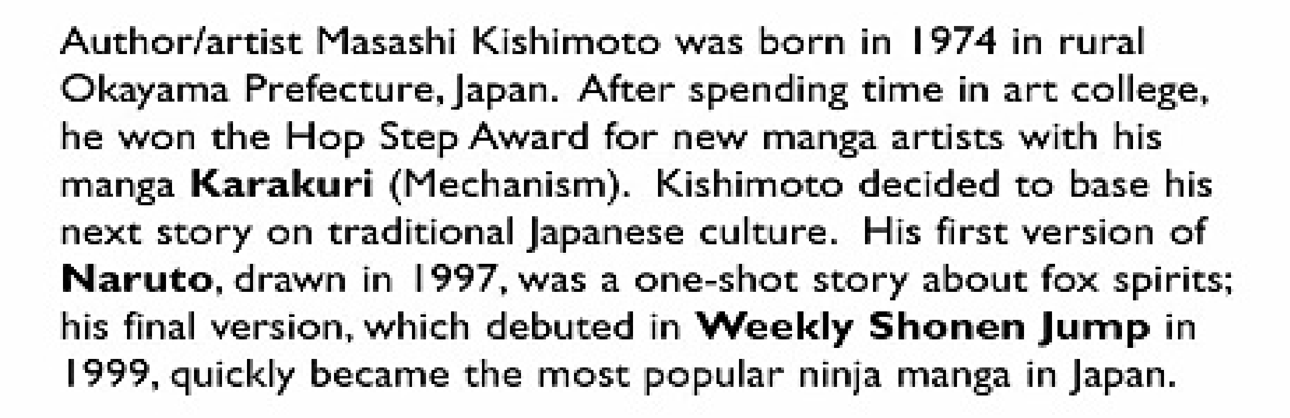




岸本斉史

These days, I often hurt my wrists when I wake up in the morning. When I sit up, I put too much weight on one hand and end up twisting it. You're not too aware of things when you've just woken up. So, everyone please be careful when you wake up in the morning.

—Masashi Kishimoto, 2005



Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.

NARUTO VOL. 29
The SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

This graphic novel contains material that was originally published in English in **SHONEN JUMP** #63-64. Artwork in the magazine may have been slightly altered from that presented here.

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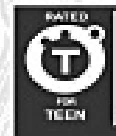
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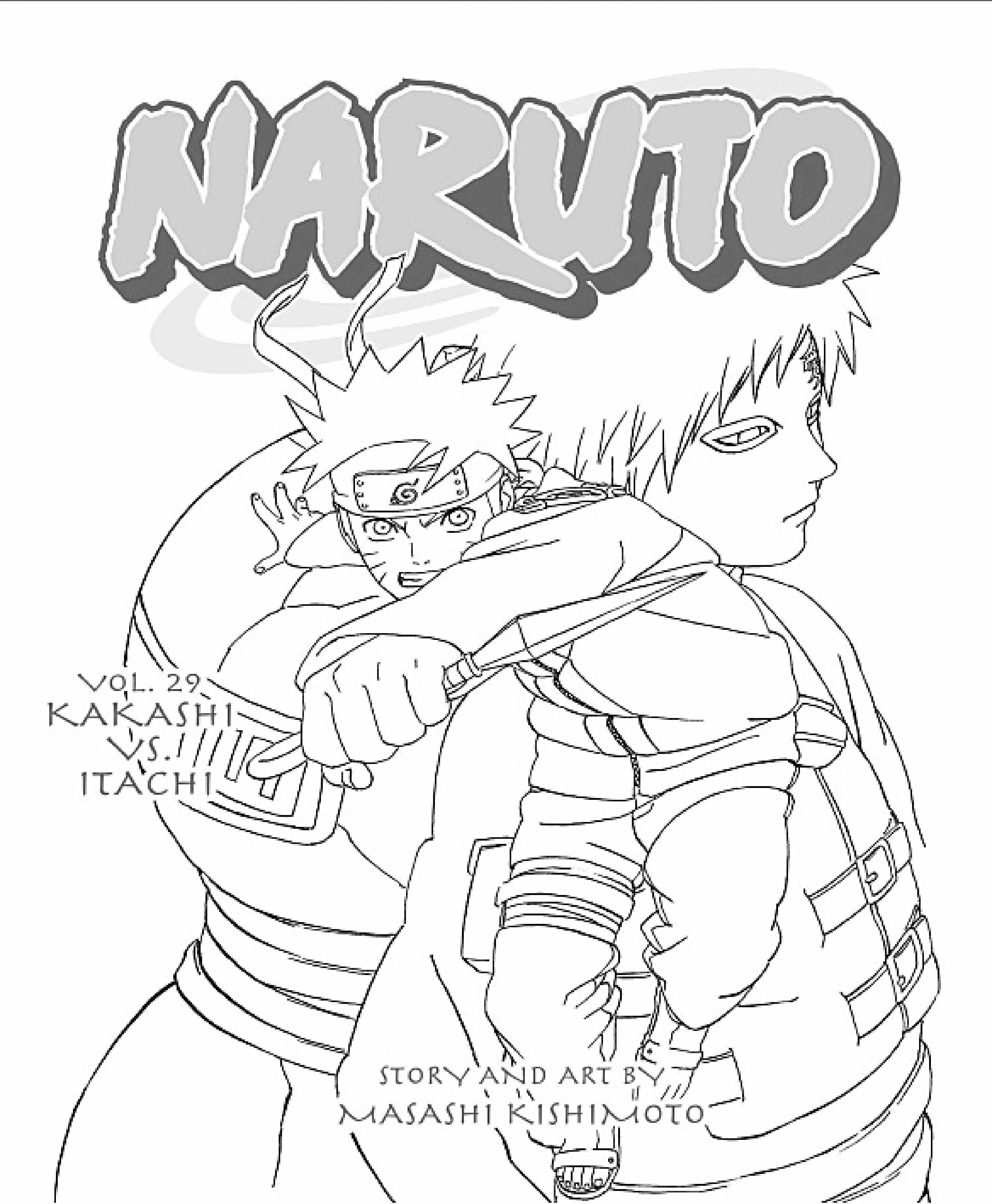




PARENTAL ADVISORY
NARUTO is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.
ratings.viz.com



SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION



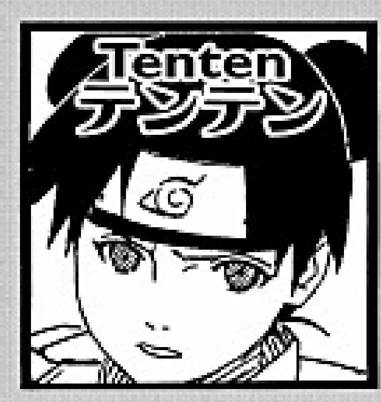










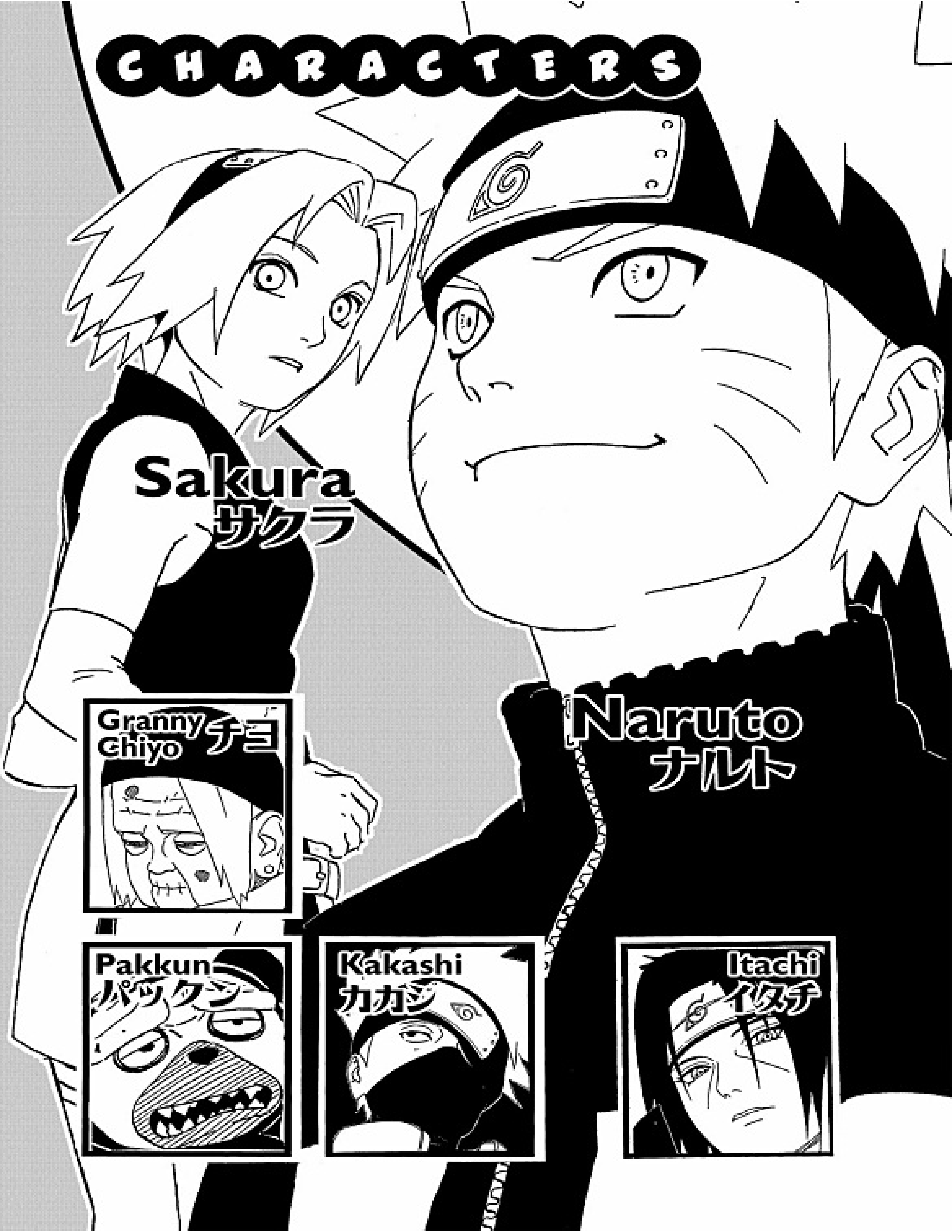


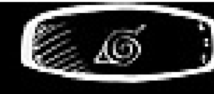
The Story So Far…

Naruto, the biggest troublemaker at the Ninja Academy in the village of Konohagakure, finally becomes a ninja along with his classmates Sasuke and Sakura. Right in the middle of the Chûnin Selection Exams, Orochimaru and his henchmen launch *Operation Destroy Konoha*, which ends when the revered leader of the village, the Third Hokage, sacrifices his own life to save his people.

Tsunade, one of the Three Great Shinobi of Konoha legend, becomes the Fifth Hokage. Sasuke, succumbing to the allure of Orochimaru's power, leaves the village with the deadly Sound Ninja Four. Naruto fights valiantly against Sasuke, but can't stop him.

Two years pass following that battle, and Naruto and his comrades train and mature. The mysterious Gaara becomes Kazekage and falls into the hands of the secret society of the Akatsuki! Naruto with one team and Lee with another set out for the village of Sunagakure to save him!!


CHARACTERS
Sakura
サクラ
Naruto
ナルト
Granny Chiyo
チヨ
Pakkun
パックン
Kakashi
カカシ
Itachi
イタチ

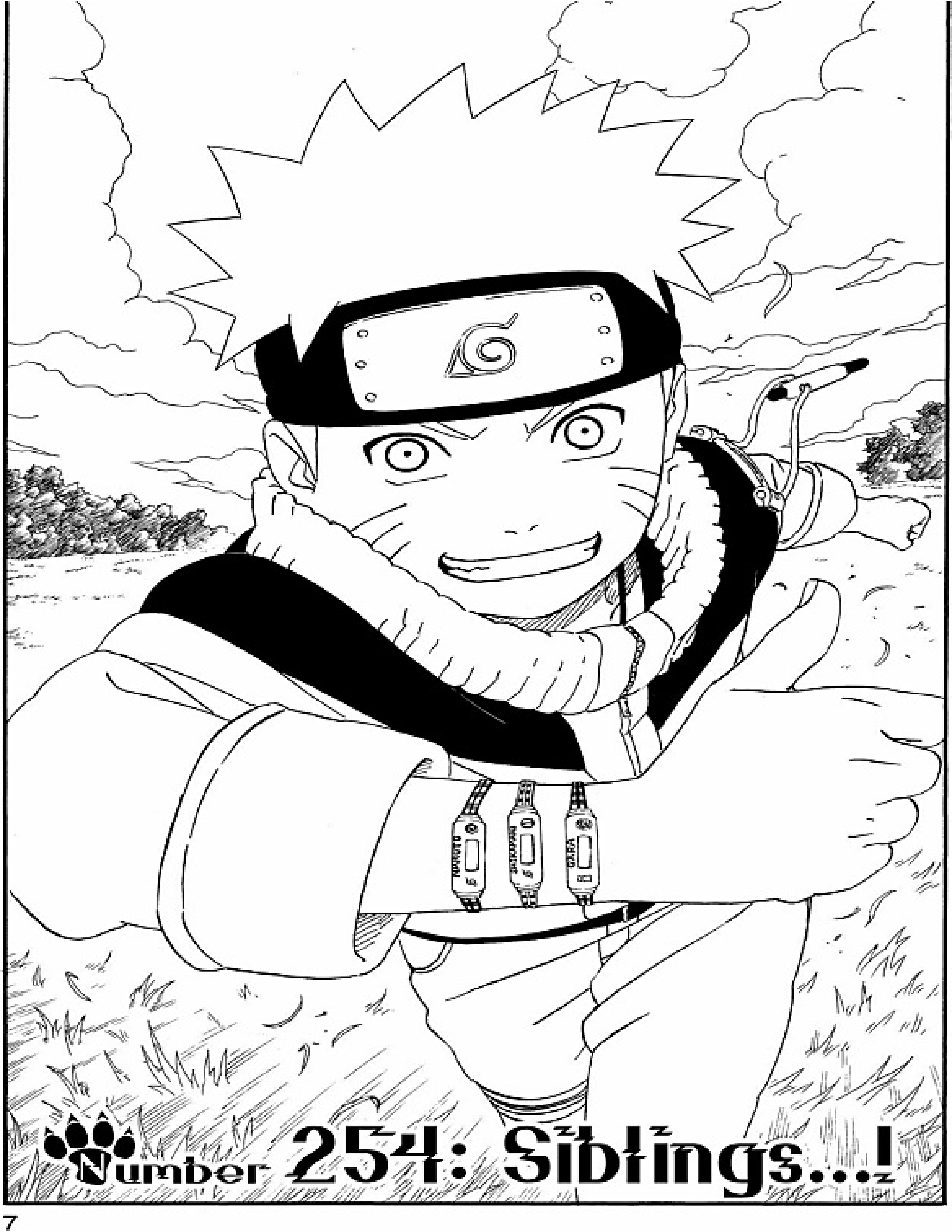


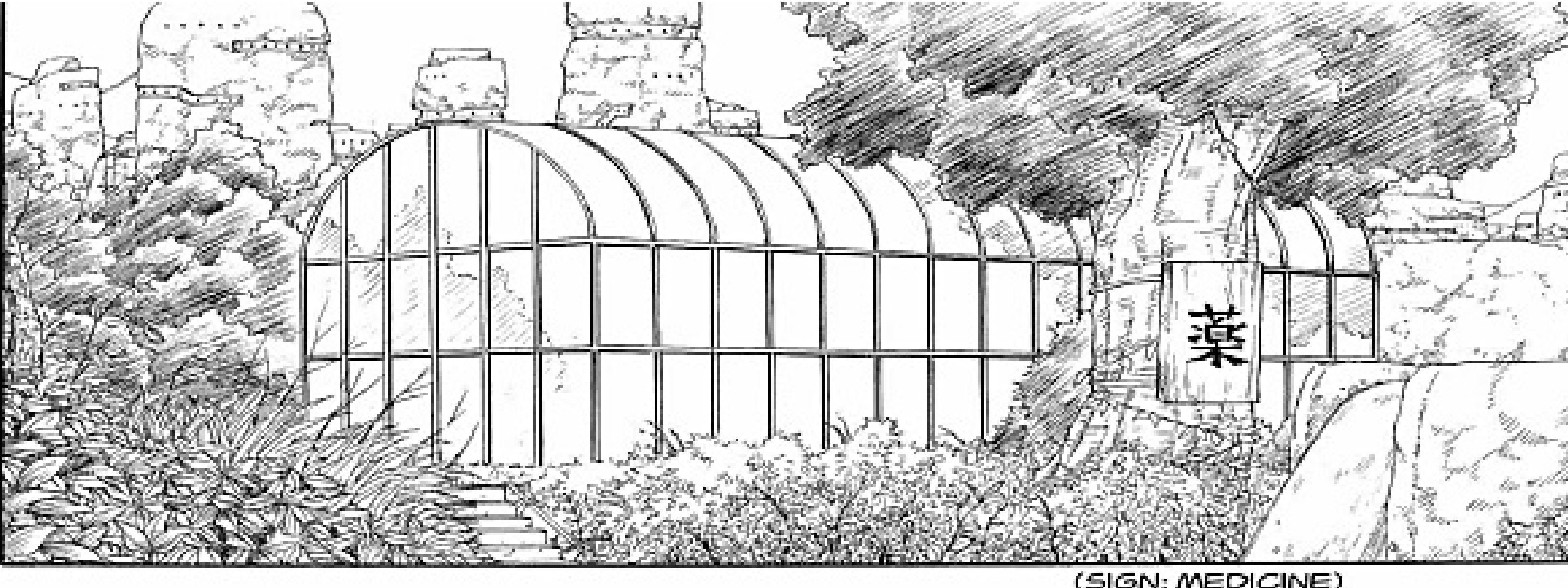
NARUTO

VOL. 29
KAKASHI VS. ITACHI

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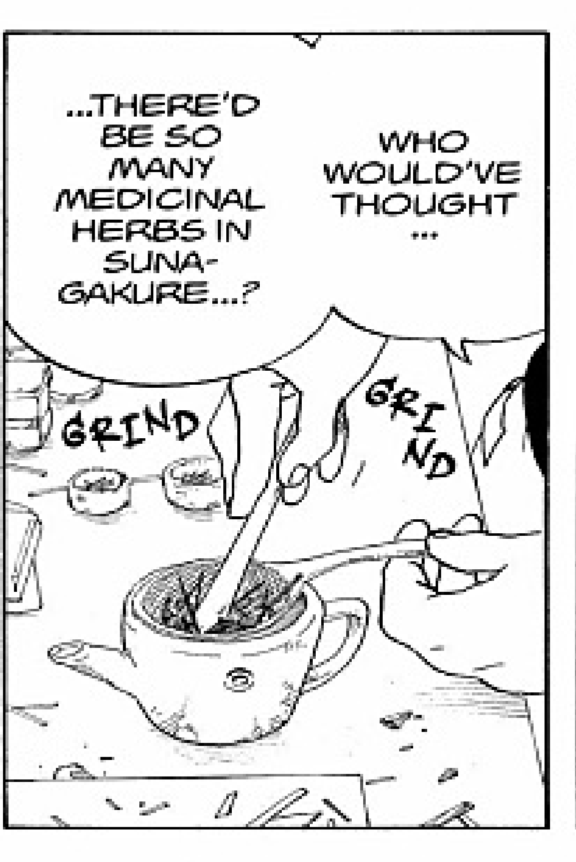


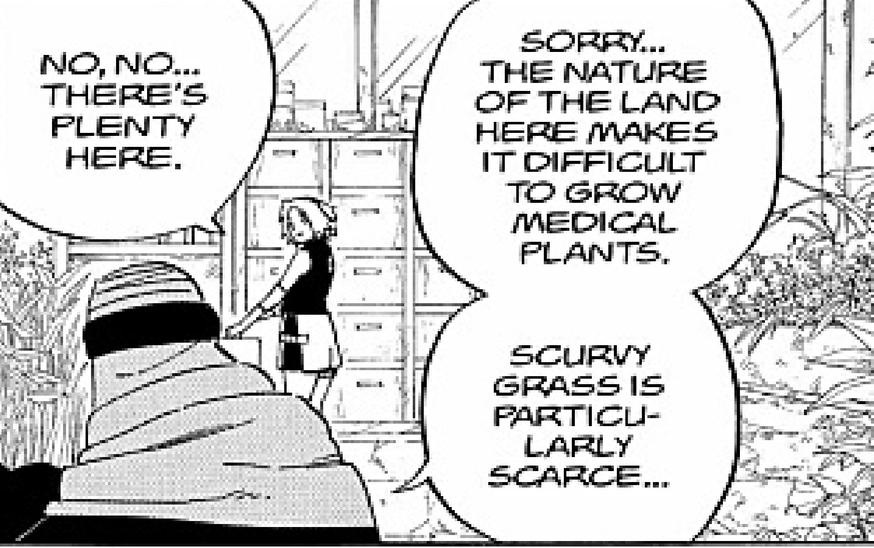

Number 254: Siblings...!

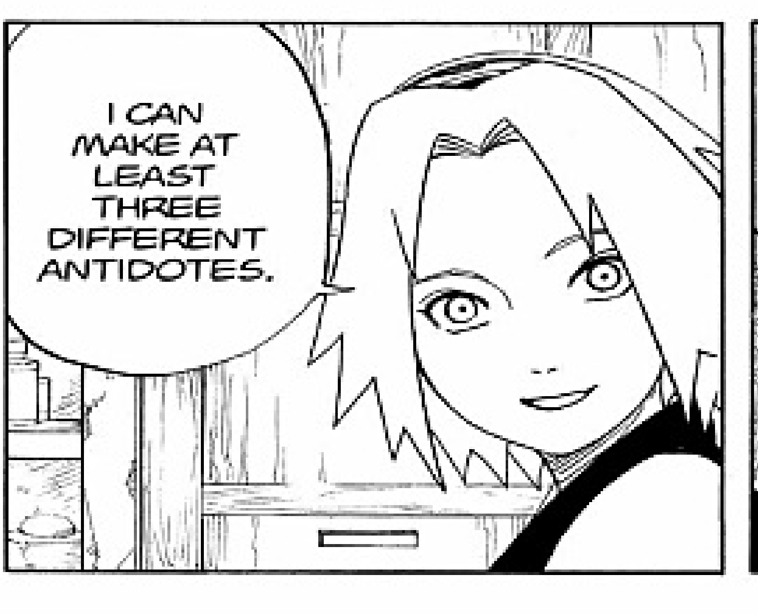


(SIGN: MEDICINE)





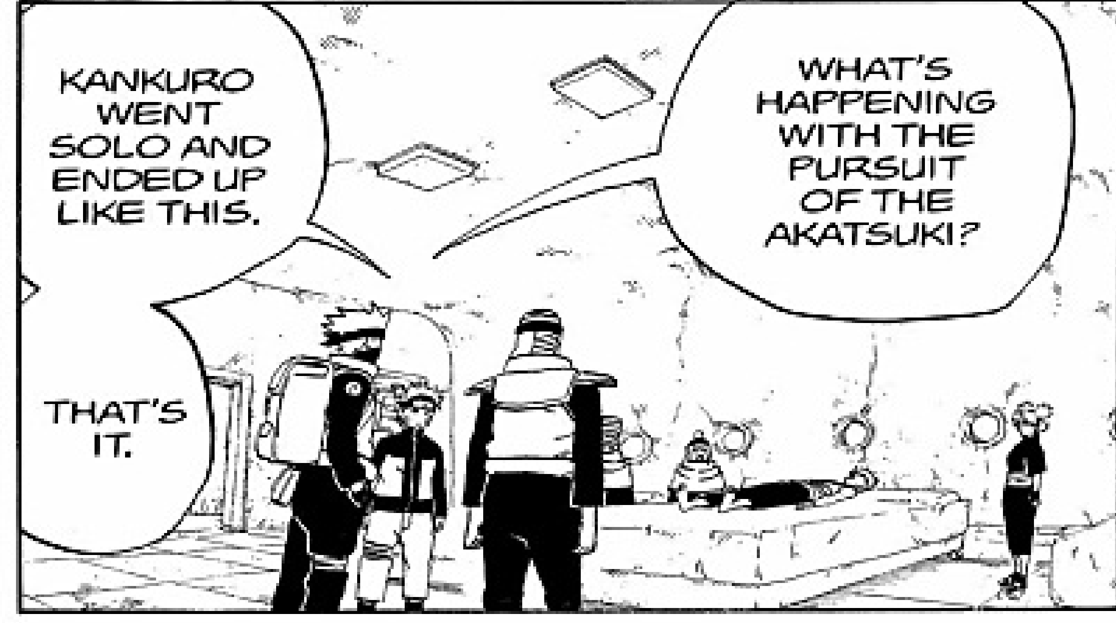





READ THIS WAY


WHUMP
AS SOON AS SAKURA FINISHES...
...WE MOVE OUT!


REIN IT IN A BIT, NARUTO.


WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE PURSUIT OF THE AKATSUKI?
KANKURO WENT SOLO AND ENDED UP LIKE THIS.
THAT'S IT.

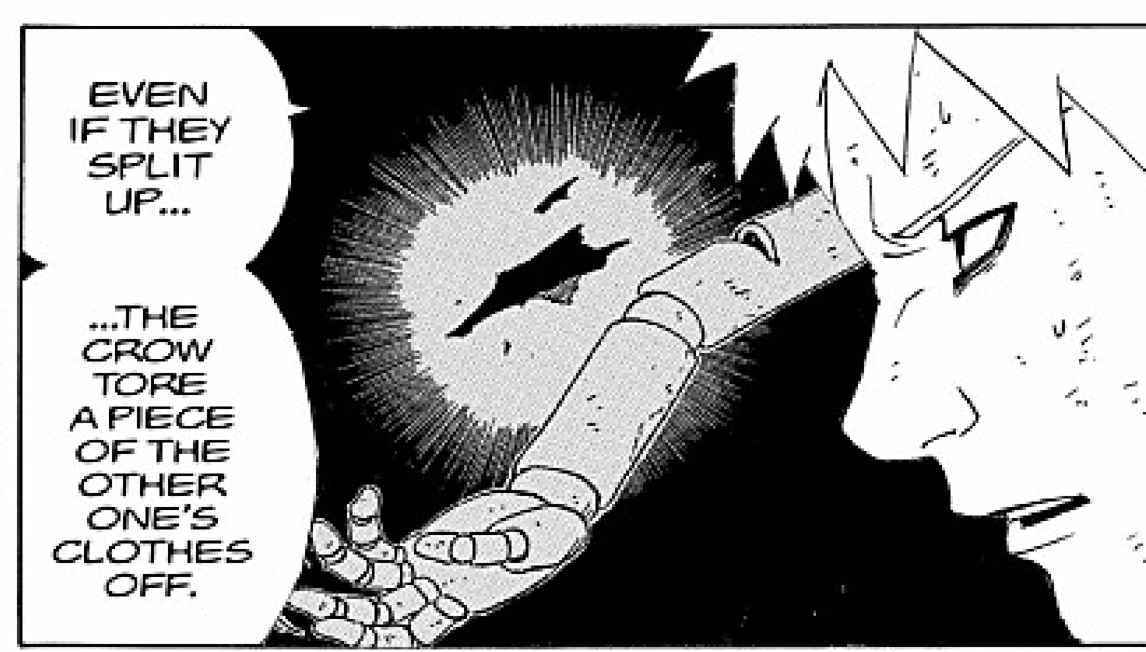

...SO THEY'RE LONG GONE?


WELL... YEAH.
TAKE ME TO WHERE KANKURO FOUGHT.
I MUST TRACK THEM...
IF EVEN A TRACE OF THEIR SCENT REMAINS ...


NO NEED FOR THAT...

THERE WERE TWO OF THEM...
ONE HAS GAARA.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FOLLOW GAARA'S SCENT.
SSH...












READ THIS WAY

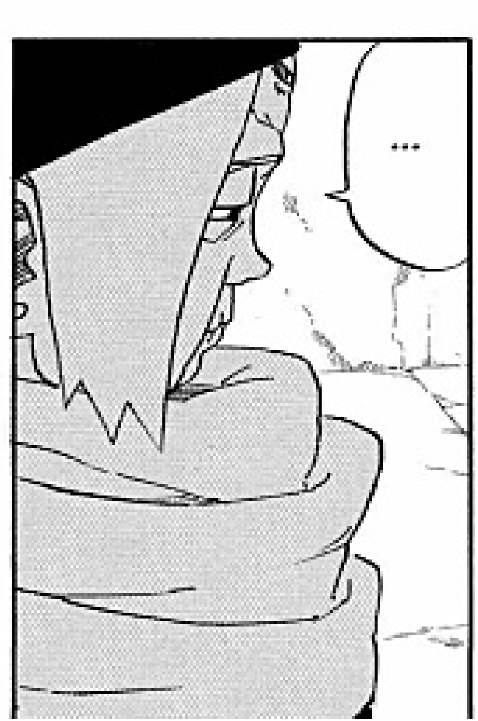

HEY...


KAN-KURO ...
ARE YOU SURE ONE OF THEM WAS SASORI?


GRANNY CHIYO AND GRAMPA EBIZO?!


IS IT TRUE...
...KAN-KURO?


...
YEAH... HE CALLED HIMSELF... *SASORI OF THE RED SAND.*


...




YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT THE AKATSUKI.
TELL ME...
... SASORI OF THE RED SAND?
DRINK IT ALL...
UGH... GACK...
THAT SHOULD DO IT.
ALL HE NEEDS NOW IS TO KEEP STILL UNTIL THE NUMBNESS GOES AWAY.
LIE DOWN AND TAKE IT EASY.
KOFF KOFF


READ
THIS
WAY


SKF
C'MON!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!


...


click click




I KNOW WHAT I MUST DO, KAN-KURO.
I MUST CLEAR MY OWN PATH.


...
PERHAPS THEN... SOME-DAY...



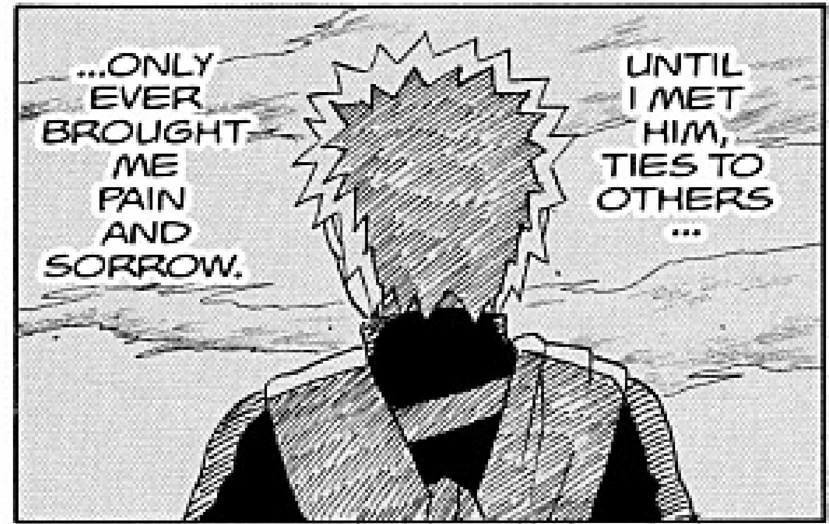
...I CAN BE LIKE HIM...



...



I NEVER THOUGHT OF EITHER OF YOU AS SIBLINGS.
CROSS ME, AND I'LL KILL YOU.



UNTIL I MET HIM, TIES TO OTHERS...
...ONLY EVER BROUGHT ME PAIN AND SORROW.



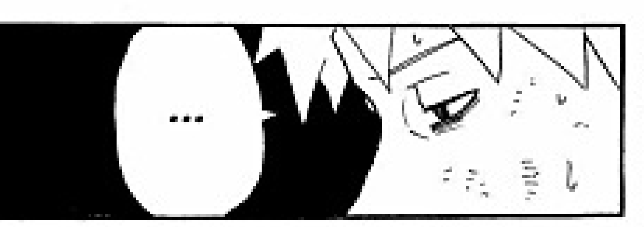
AND NOW, FINALLY...
...I THINK I'M BEGIN-NING TO UNDER-STAND WHY.




TO SHARE ONE'S FEEL- INGS WITH OTHERS ISN'T WEAK- NESS...
...IT'S STRENGTH ...

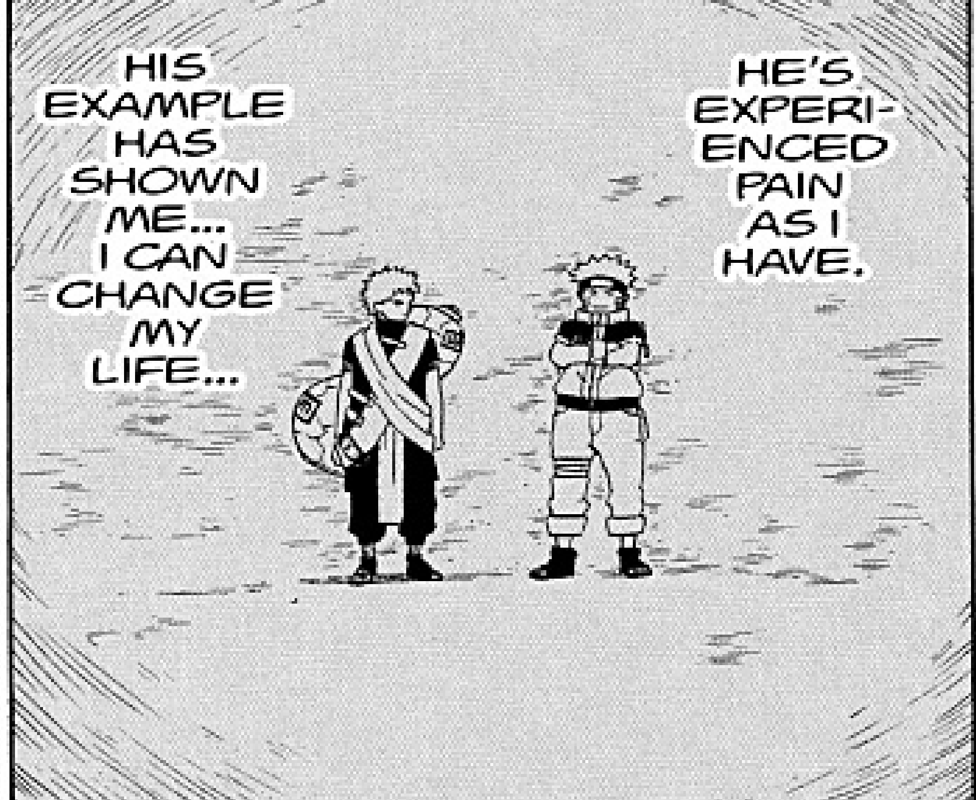

...THAT IS WHAT UZUMAKI NARUTO...
...TAUGHT ME.


...


...

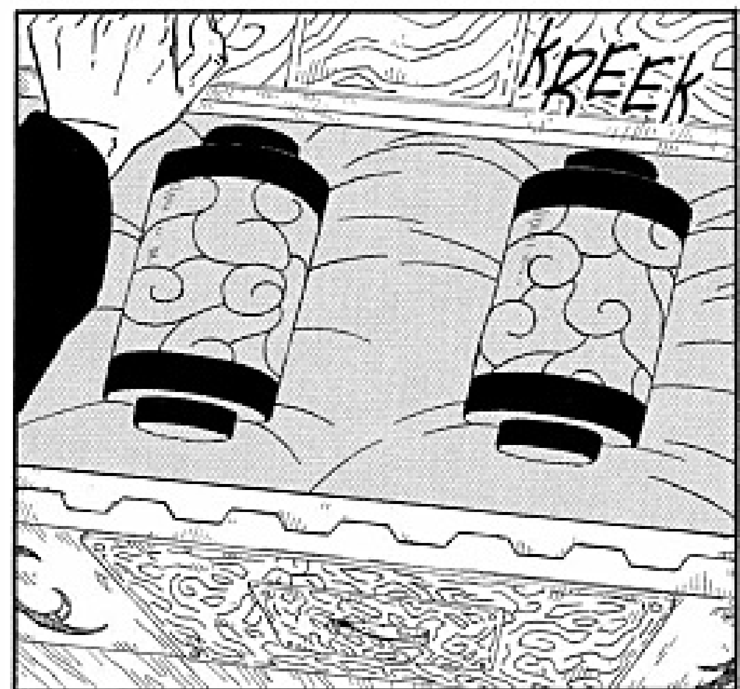

UZUMAKI NARUTO...

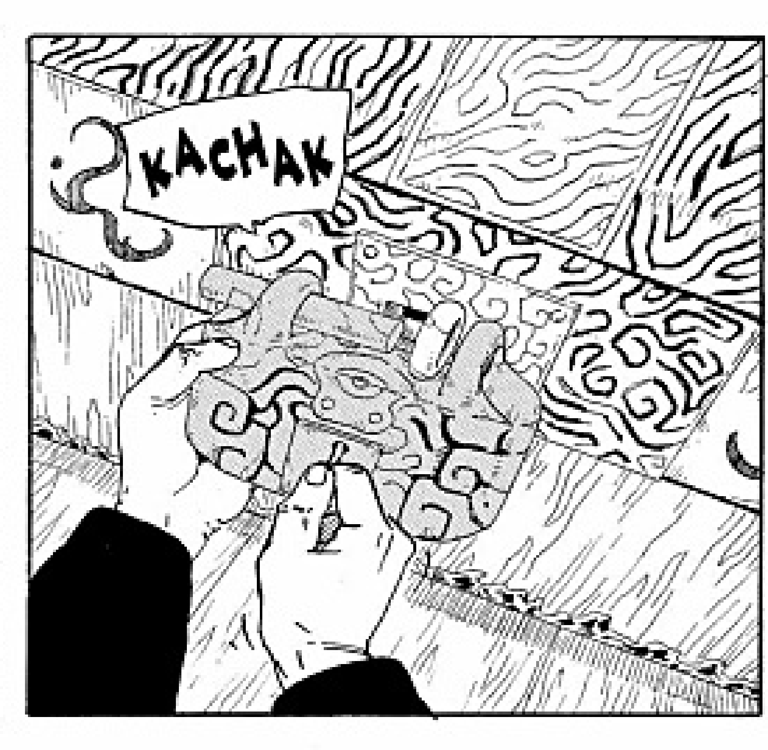

?


HE'S EXPERI- ENCED PAIN AS I HAVE.
HIS EXAMPLE HAS SHOWN ME... I CAN CHANGE MY LIFE...

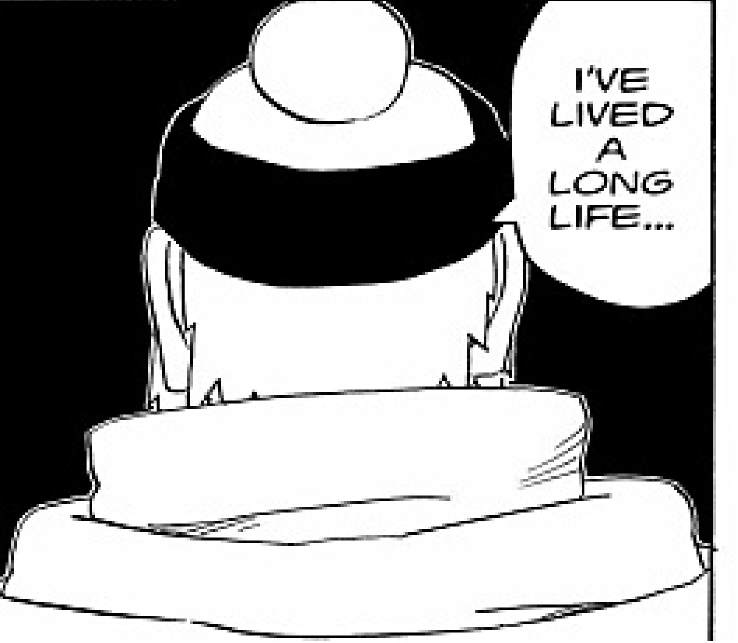

PLEASE SAVE MY BROTHER.
...
OF COURSE!
I'M GOING TO BE THE HOKAGE!
FOR NOW, THE KAZEKAGE CAN JUST OWE ME ONE!


READ
THIS
WAY

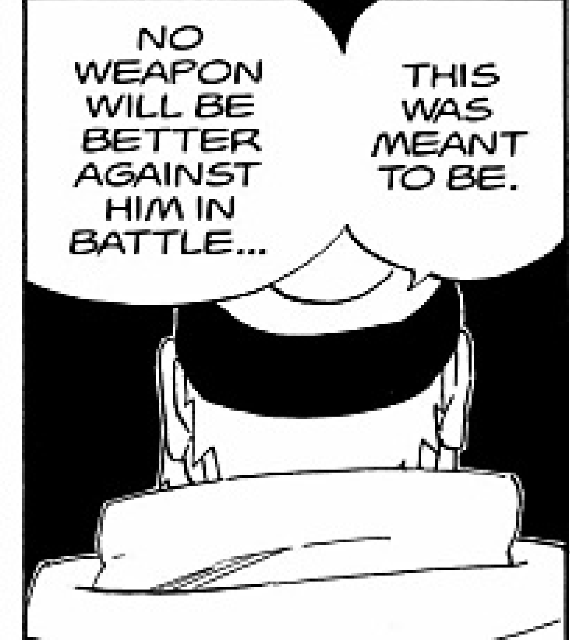

KREEK

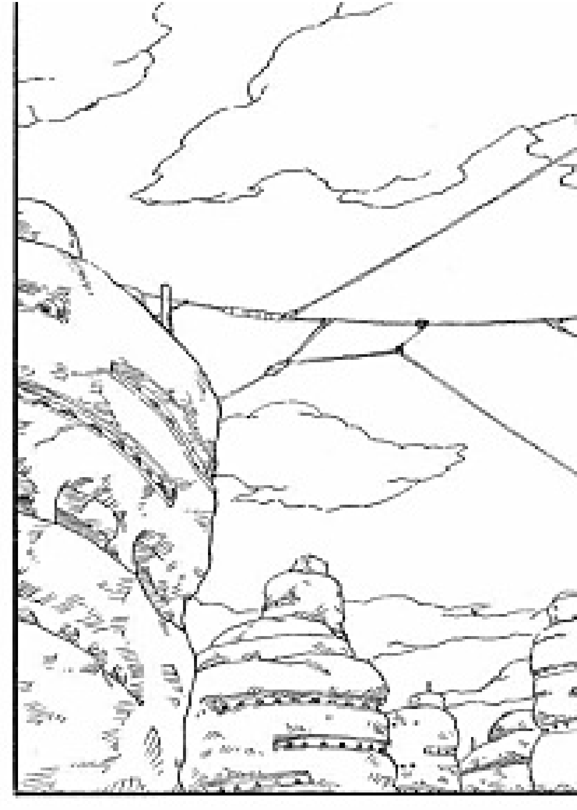
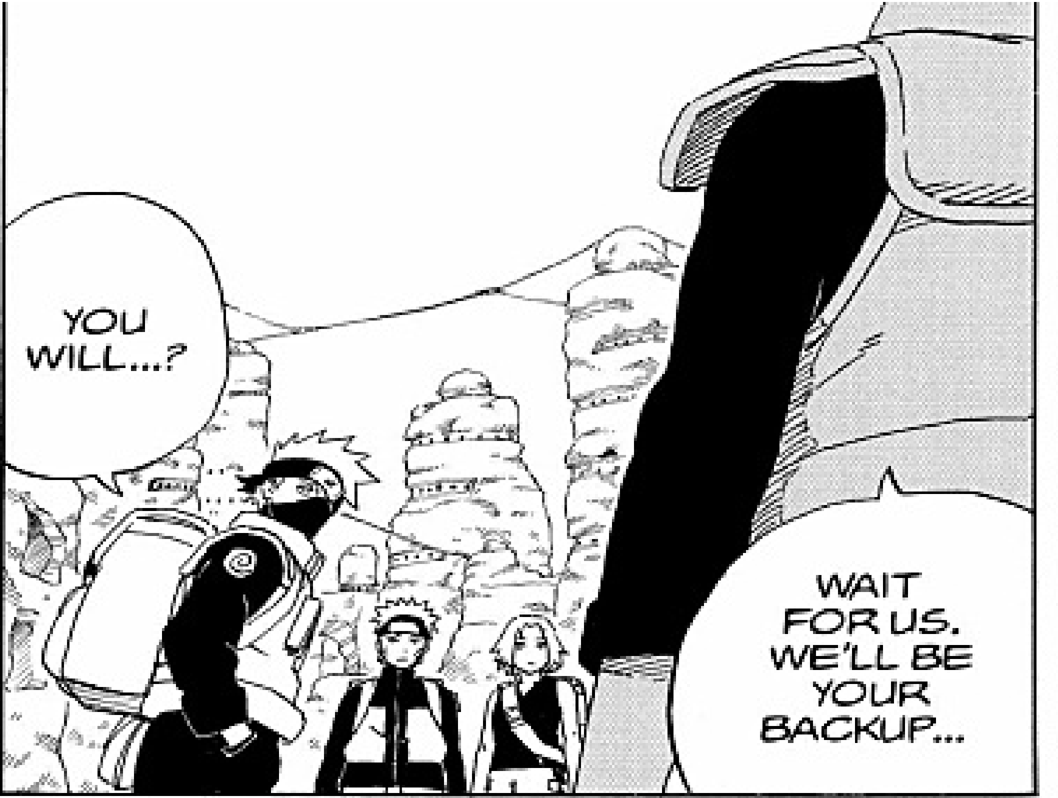

KACHAK


ARE YOU TAKING THEM WITH YOU?


I'VE LIVED A LONG LIFE...


...

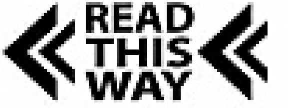

NO WEAPON WILL BE BETTER AGAINST HIM IN BATTLE...
THIS WAS MEANT TO BE.

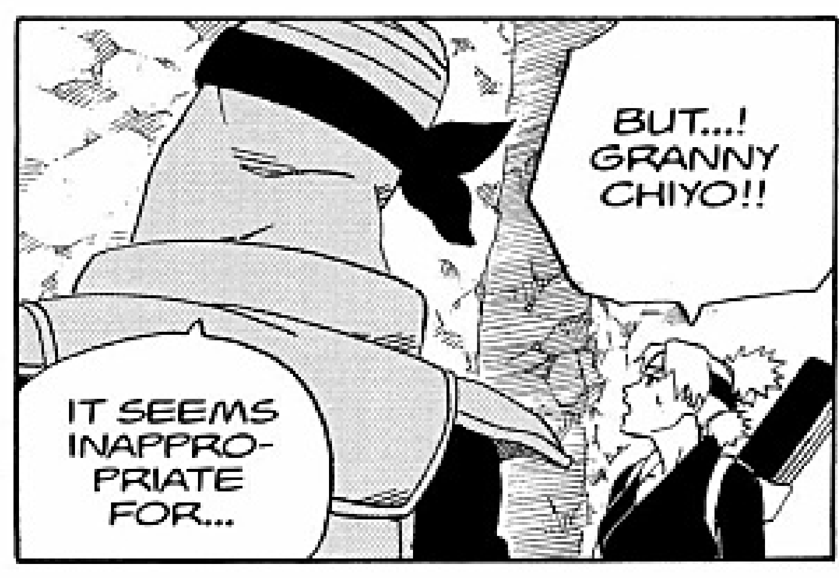


WAIT FOR US. WE'LL BE YOUR BACKUP...
YOU WILL...?

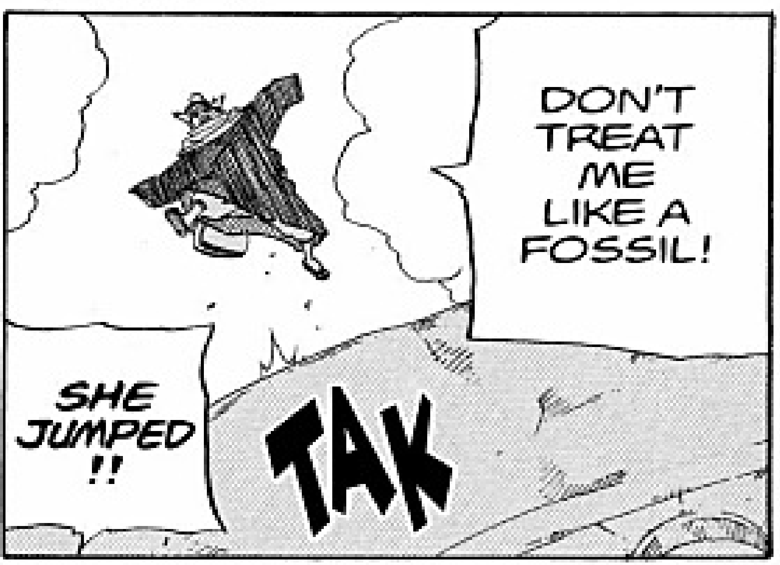
WE'LL GO!
TAK

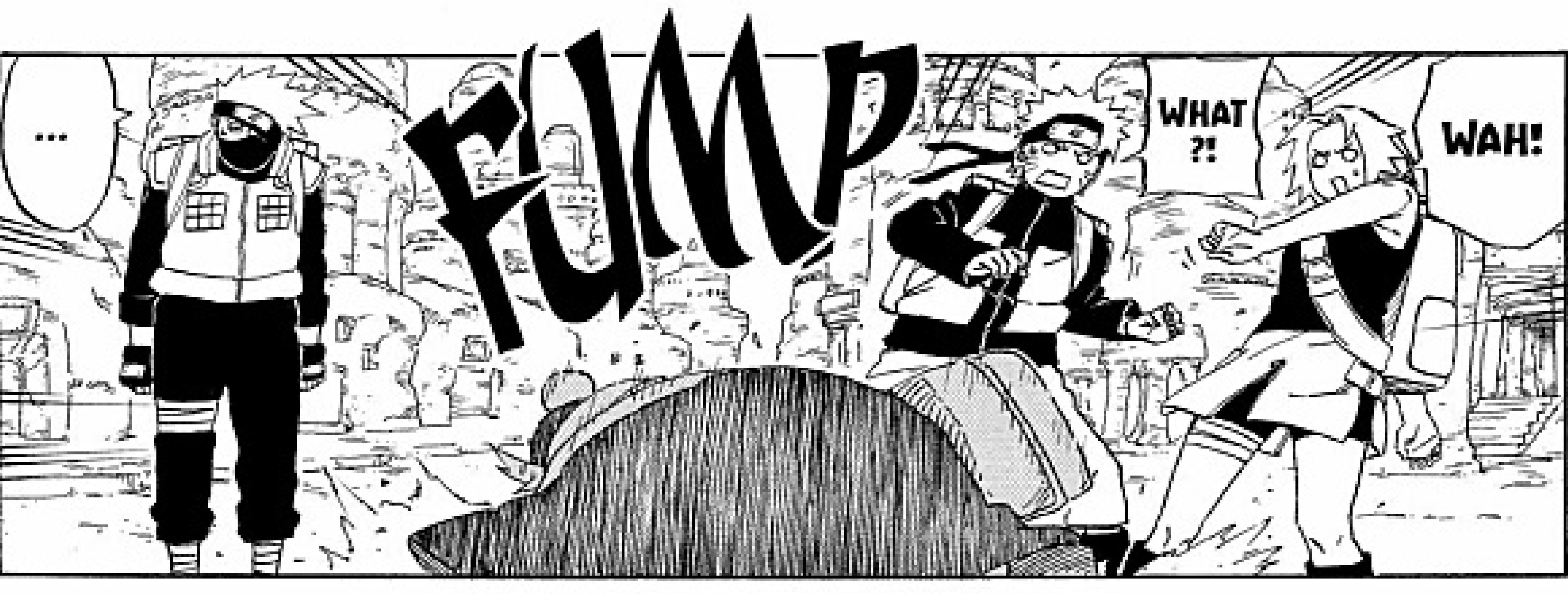
TEMARI, YOU STAY TO AID BORDER SECURITY.
!
!
!

I'LL REPRE-SENT THE SAND VILLAGE MYSELF.





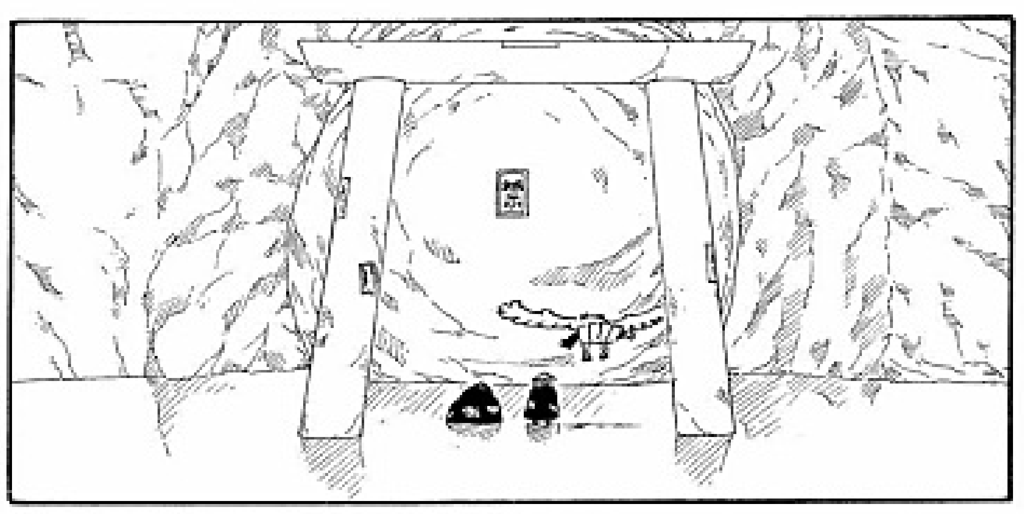




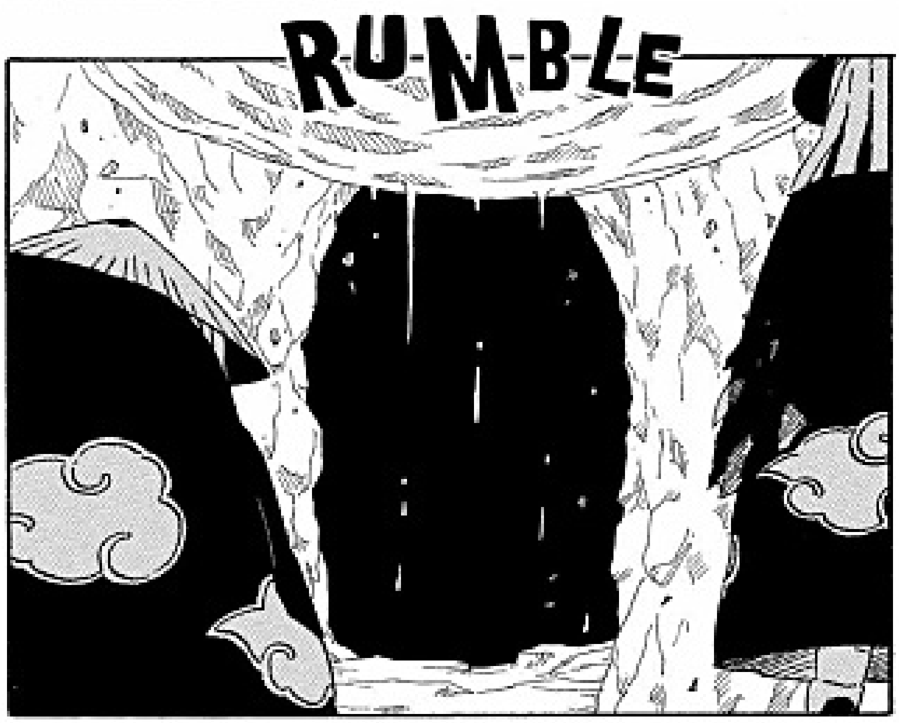
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE...

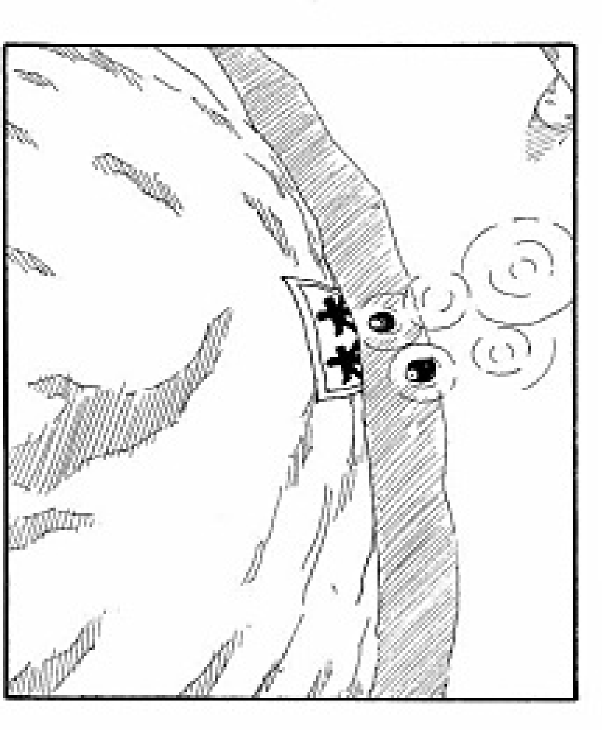
...I'VE TAKEN CARE OF MY ADORABLE GRANDCHILD...

WSSSHH




KRAAK
SHWAA
PLIP
PLIP


R-U-M-B-L-E



YOU'RE LATE...

MAKE PREPARATIONS IMMEDIATELY.

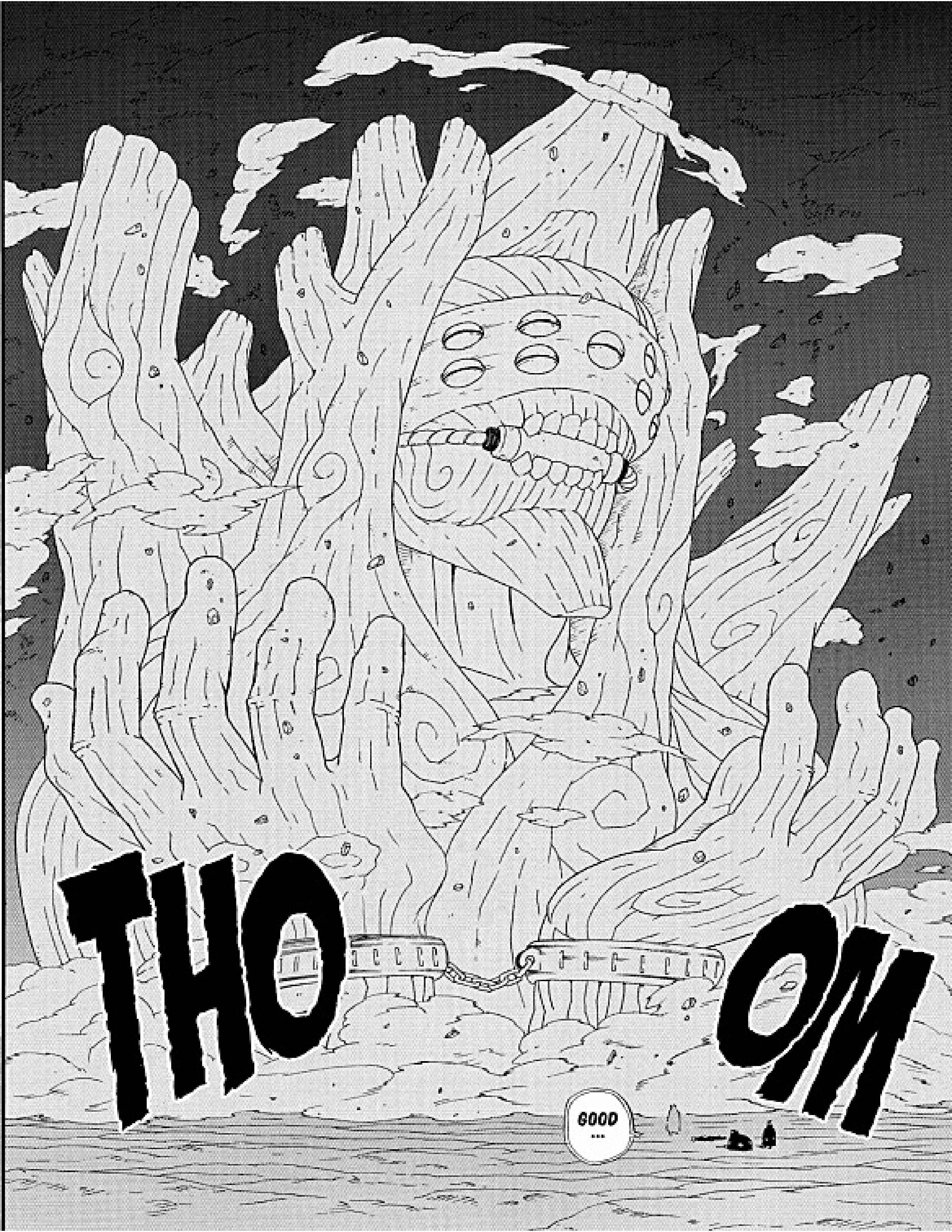
BOOF

THE JINCHŪRIKI WAS MORE POWERFUL THAN WE EXPECTED... *HMMM?*

RUMMMMMBLE

FWP

TOK


THO
OM
GOOD
...


READ
THIS
WAY

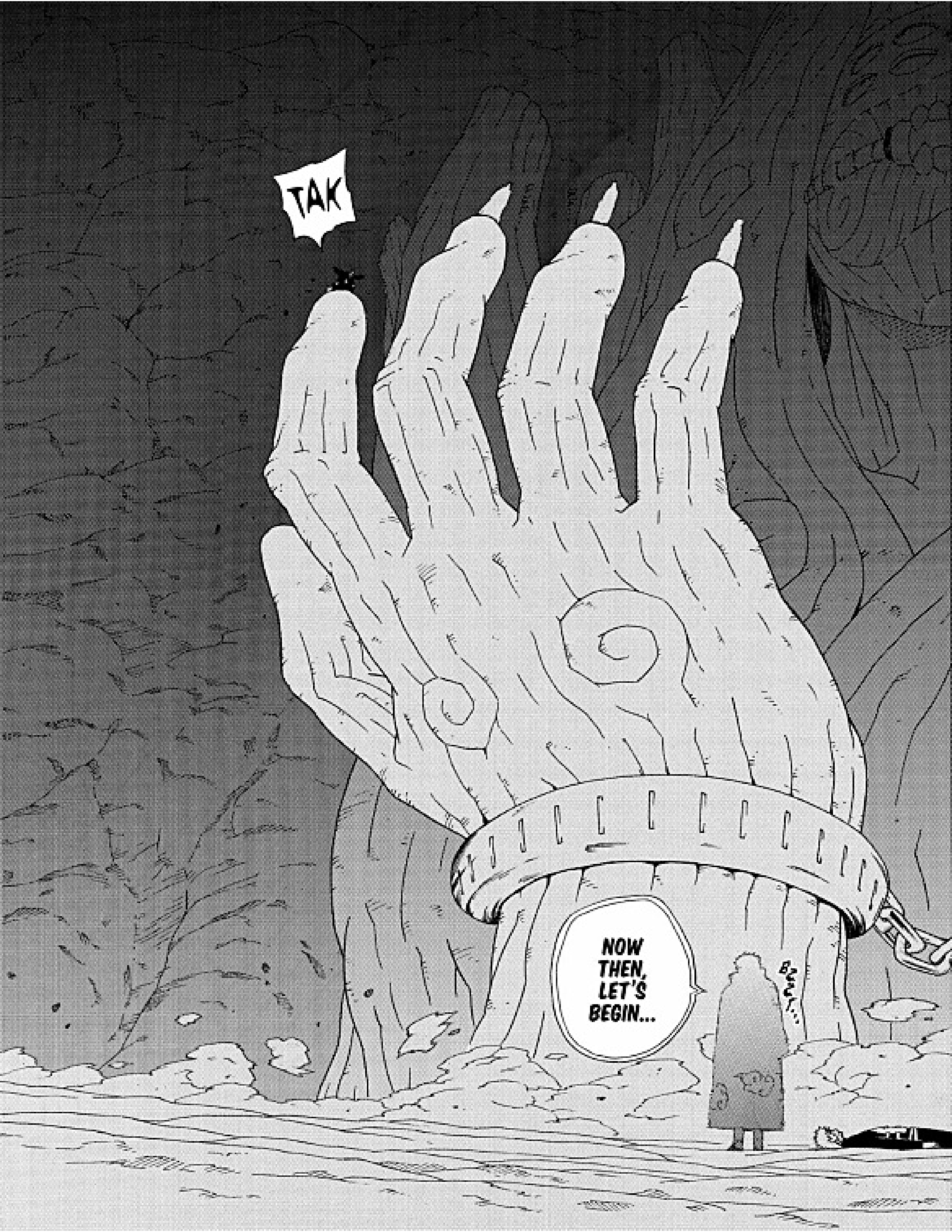

FWP


ASSEMBLE.

HUMMM
HUMMM
BZZT...
BZZT...


SHM
SHM


ZOOM
ZOOM


TAK
NOW THEN, LET'S BEGIN...
BZZT...


TAK

THE WORLD OF KISHIMOTO MASASHI
MY PERSONAL HISTORY:
FIGHTING AGAINST CHAOS, PART 1

THERE'S ONE THING I HAVE LEARNED FROM MY SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE CREATING MANGA. WHAT'S THAT, YOU ASK...?

IT IS THAT IF PEOPLE STAY IN ONE PLACE WITH THE SAME PEOPLE WITHOUT SLEEPING FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME, THEY WILL SLOWLY GO INSANE. THESE ARE SYMPTOMS THAT APPEAR AMONG MY ASSISTANTS: CRACKING UP OVER AN EXTREMELY LAME JOKE, SPENDING A HALF HOUR TAPE RECORDING FARTS, CONVERSING IN MOANING VOICES, AND SO ON. IN THESE WAYS AND COUNTLESS OTHERS, THINGS START GOING LOOPY.

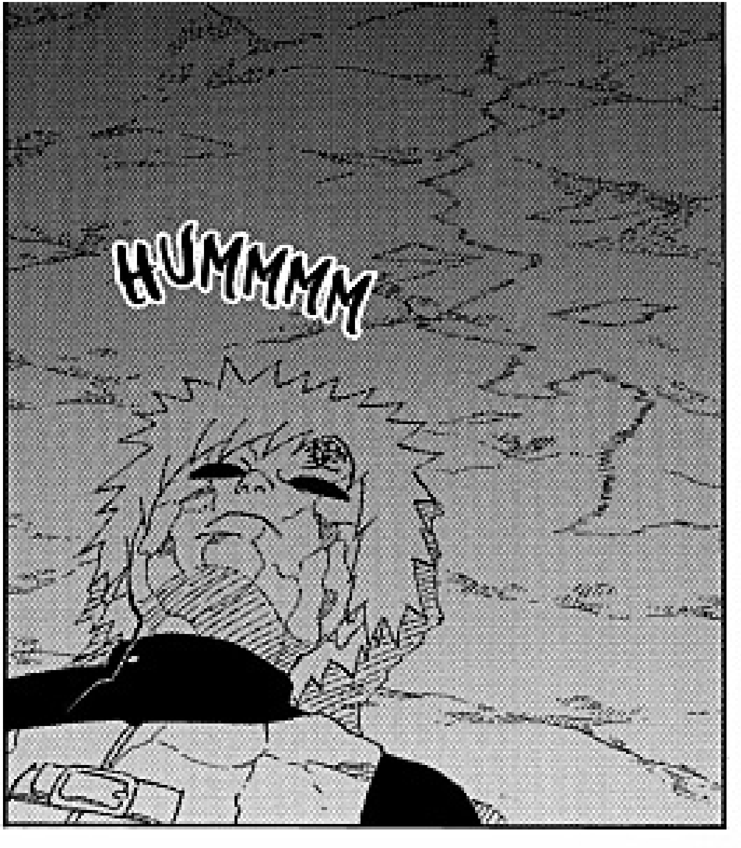
IN A SENSE, MY ASSISTANTS COME TO BE CONTROLLED BY A KIND OF CHAOS. HOWEVER, THEY AREN'T AWARE OF IT, AND A STATE OF CHAOS BECOMES NORMAL... WHENEVER A NEW PERSON JOINS THE TEAM, THE GAP MY ASSISTANTS FEEL BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND THE NEW GUY MAKES THEM REALIZE JUST HOW WEIRD THEY'VE BECOME. THEN THEY REGRET THE SILLINESS THEY'D BEEN UP TO A LITTLE BIT. BUT... TIME IS A DREADFUL THING, BECAUSE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT THEY'VE ABSORBED THE NEW ASSISTANT AND RETURNED TO THEIR STATE OF CHAOS.

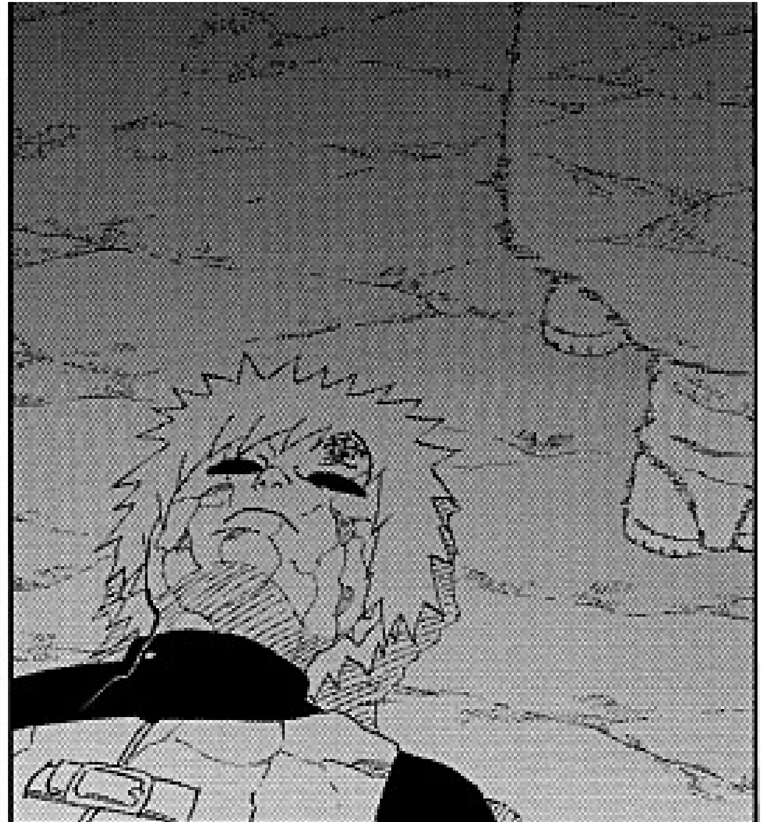
ONE DAY, THE FOLLOWING INCIDENT TOOK PLACE: I GOT STUCK WRITING A MANGA JUST BEFORE THE DEADLINE, SO I LAY DOWN BEHIND MY DESK TO TAKE A SHORT NAP. WHEN I WAS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO USE AS A PILLOW, I FOUND A BIG FROG-SHAPED *GAMAGUCHI* CUSHION. (THIS IS A CUSHION MODELED ON THE FROGGIE WALLET THAT NARUTO USES IN THE SERIES. IT WAS MADE AS A PRESENT FOR READERS.)

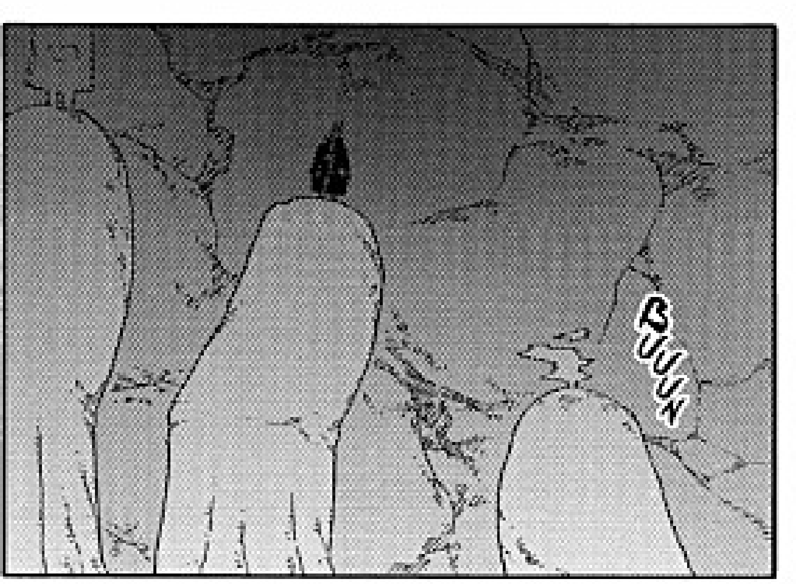
THE CUSHION WAS JUST THE RIGHT SIZE TO LAY MY HEAD ON. THINKING I HAD MADE A GREAT DISCOVERY, I WAS GOING TO TAKE A NAP USING IT AS A PILLOW. ...BUT... THIS COIN PURSE-TYPE CUSHION CAN BE OPENED JUST LIKE A REGULAR COIN PURSE. WHILE GAZING AT IT IN A STUPOR, AN IDEA CROSSED MY MIND. IF IT'S BIG ENOUGH TO LAY MY HEAD ON, WOULDN'T IT BE POSSIBLE TO STICK MY HEAD INSIDE IT? THIS RATHER POINTLESS SUSPICION ENTERED MY HEAD. I SHOULD'VE JUST TAKEN THE NAP IMMEDIATELY; I WAS TIRED, AFTER ALL. BUT FOR SOME REASON, I COULDN'T HELP CONFIRMING MY SUSPICION. SO I PUT MY HEAD IN THE COIN PURSE CUSHION AND FOUND THAT MY HEAD AND NECK JUST BARELY FIT INSIDE IT.

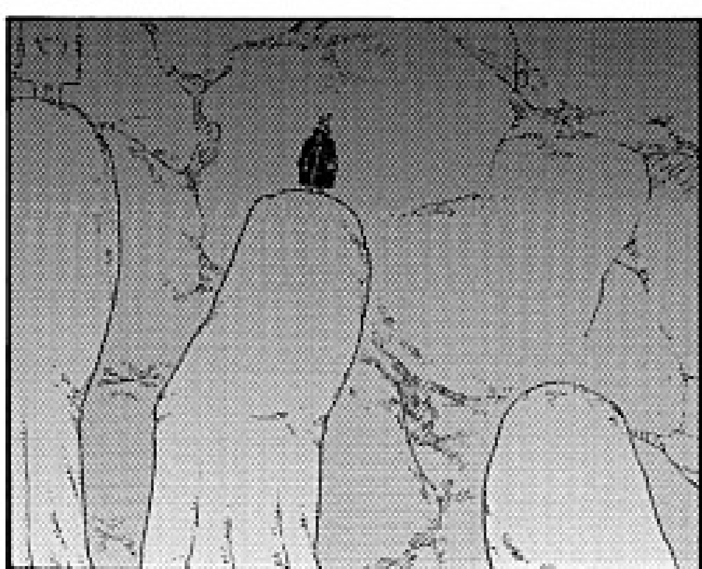
TO THIS DAY, I HAVE NO IDEA WHY I DID THIS. I'M CONVINCED THAT I HAD FALLEN VICTIM TO THE CHAOS. AT THE TIME, I HAD NO IDEA THE DISASTER THAT THIS WOULD LEAD TO. (TO BE CONTINUED...)


Number 255:
Approach
...!!


HUMMMM

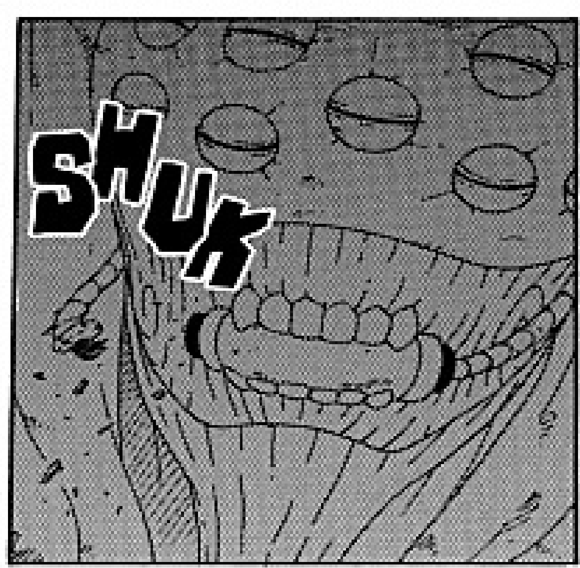


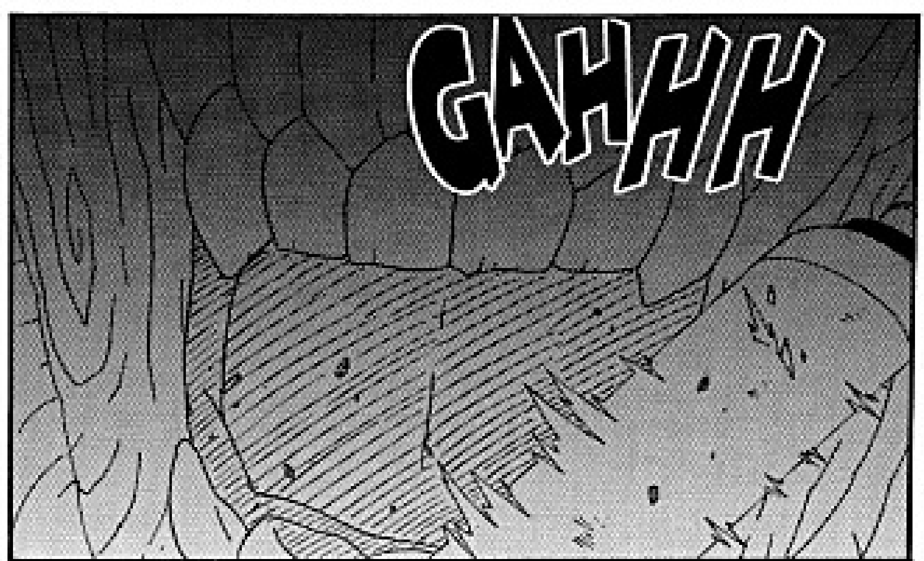

RUUN




HUMM
SHF...

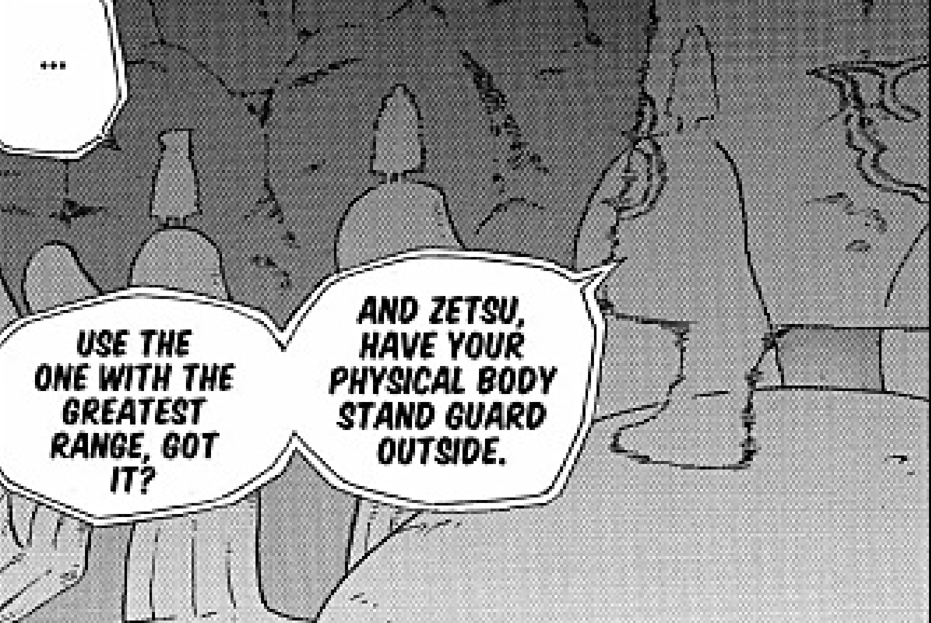






THIS IS GOING TO TAKE THREE FULL DAYS.

STAY AWARE OF YOUR PHYSICAL SELVES.

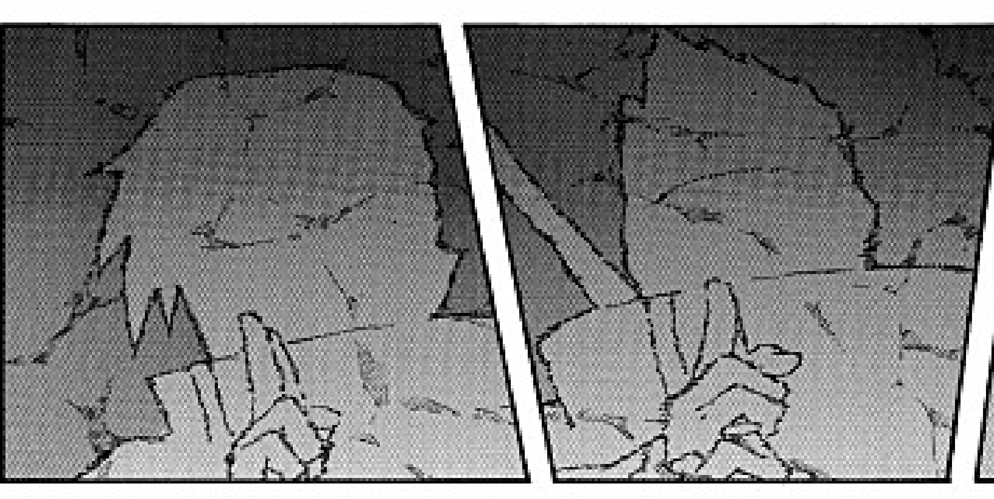


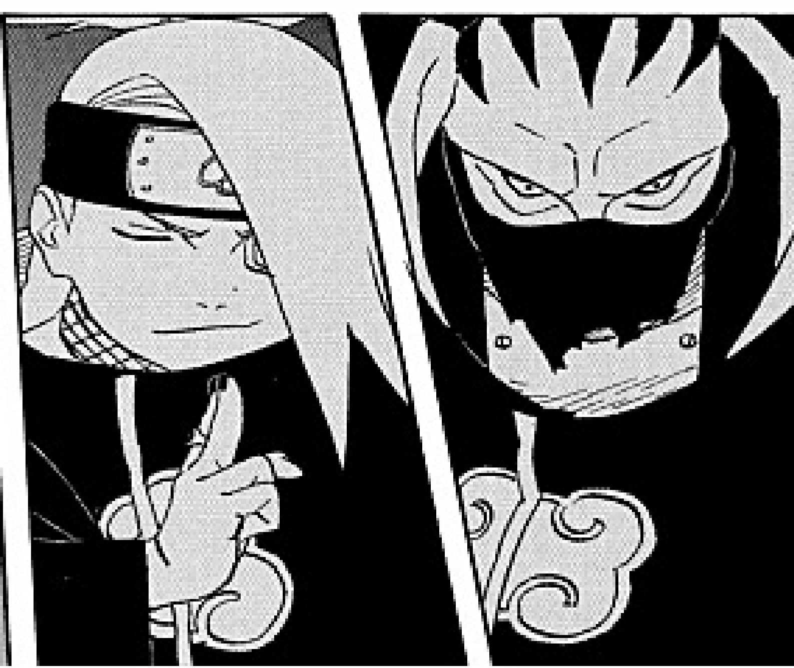



THREE DAYS ...?
WITH OROCHIMARU GONE...
...SHOULDN'T WE MAYBE ALLOW MORE TIME?


IF YOU THINK THAT...
WE'D BETTER GET STARTED.

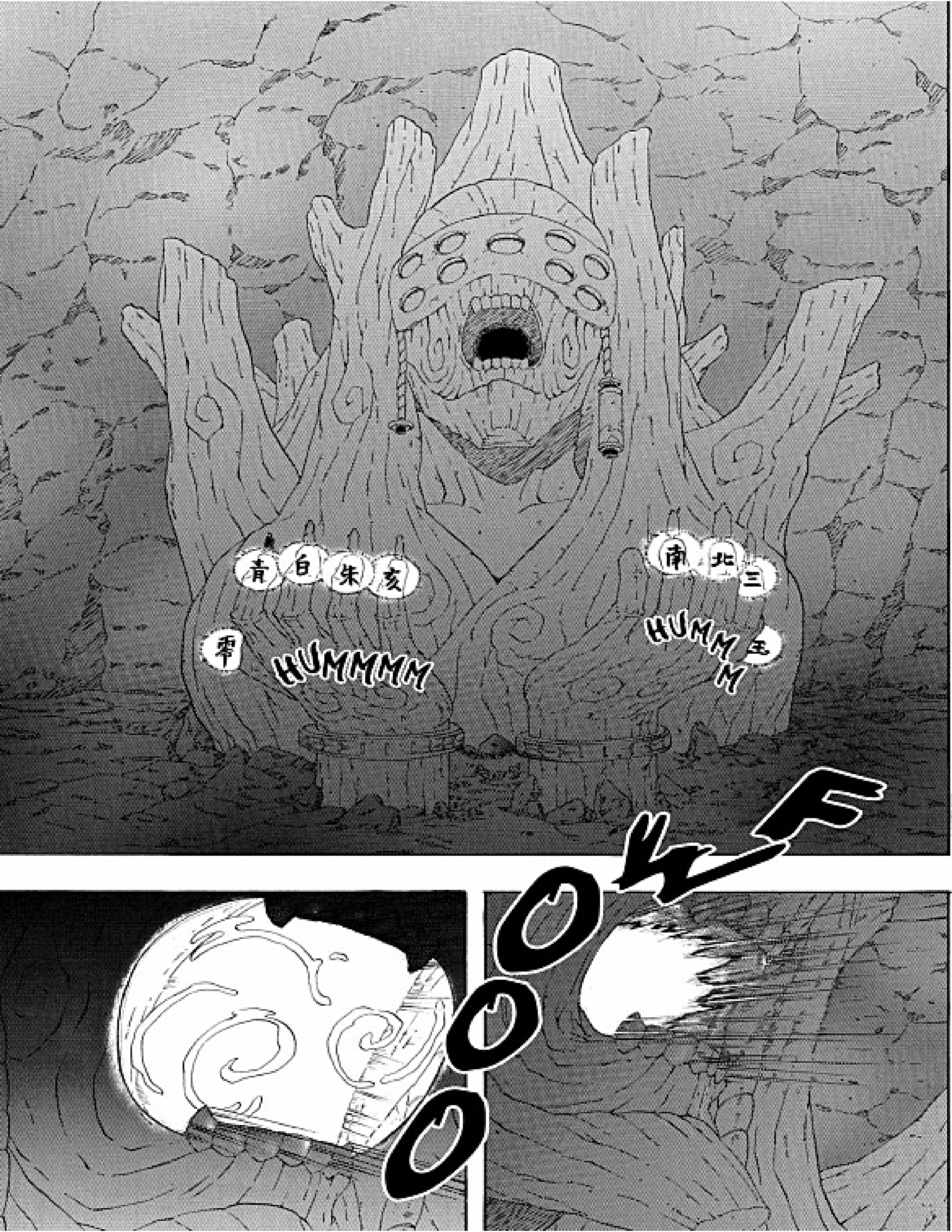












南
北
三
青
白
朱
亥
零
HUMMMM
HUMMMMM
FWOOO


SEALING JUTSU! NINE PHANTOM DRAGONS SEAL!!
SQP
WOOOOO


FSSH
SWISH
HEY!
SLOW DOWN!


WE'VE BEEN RUNNING ALL DAY!
WE NEED REST!


YOU'RE OUT OF SHAPE, TENTEN.

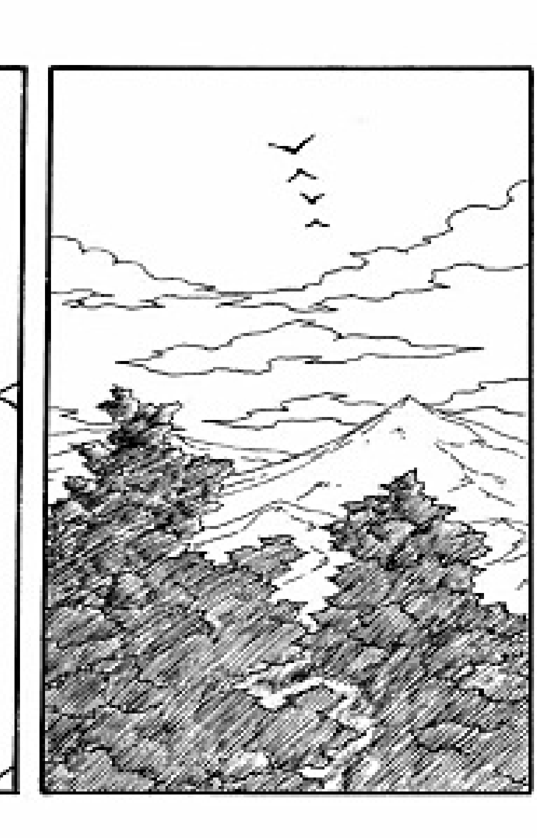

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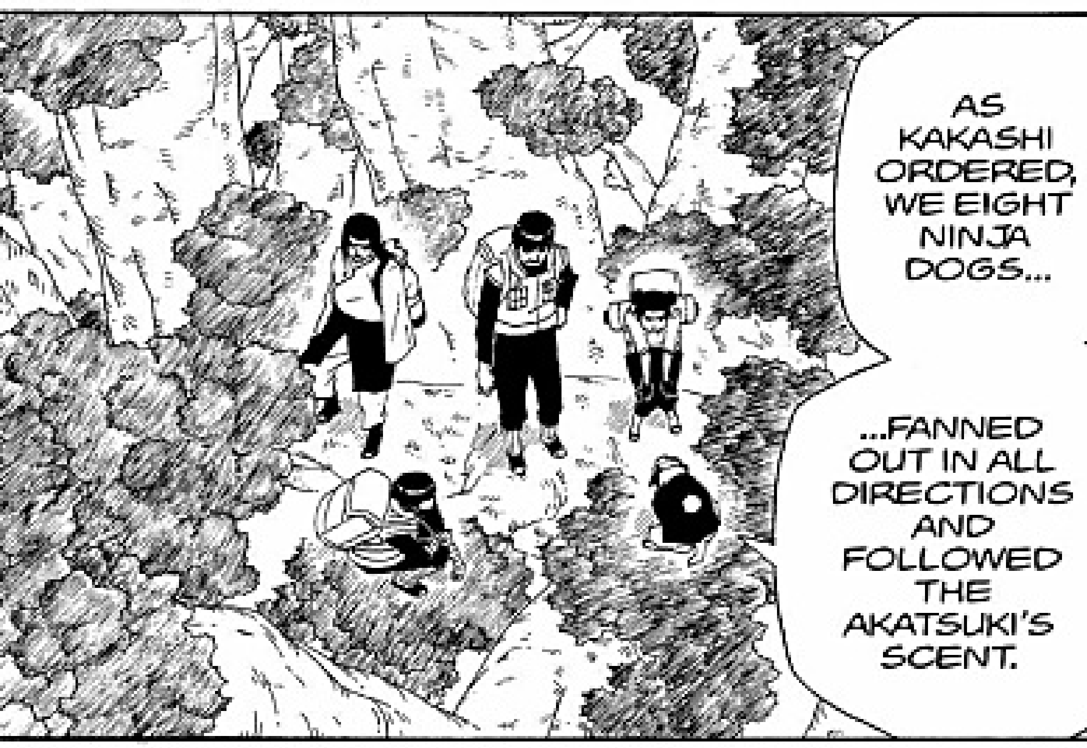

RUSTLE

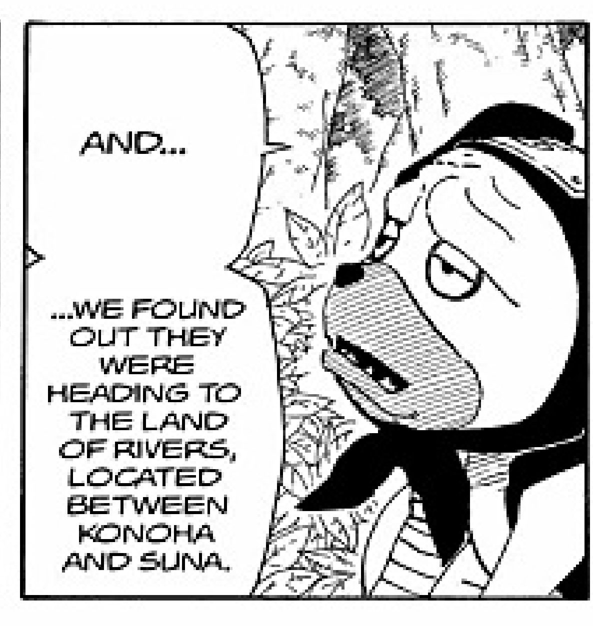

GUY.
WAIT!

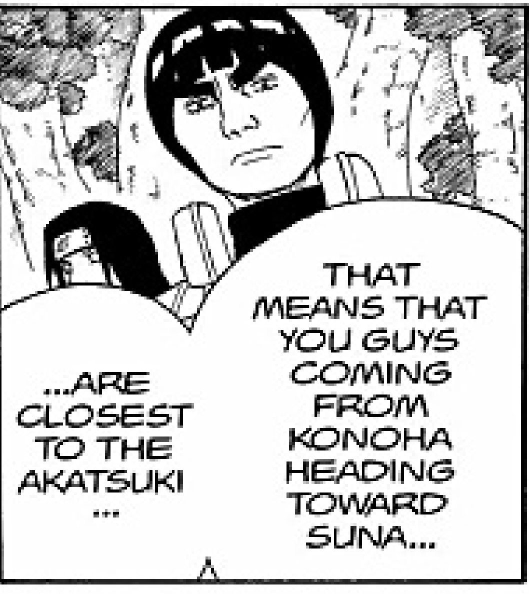

PAKKUN.


READ
THIS
WAY

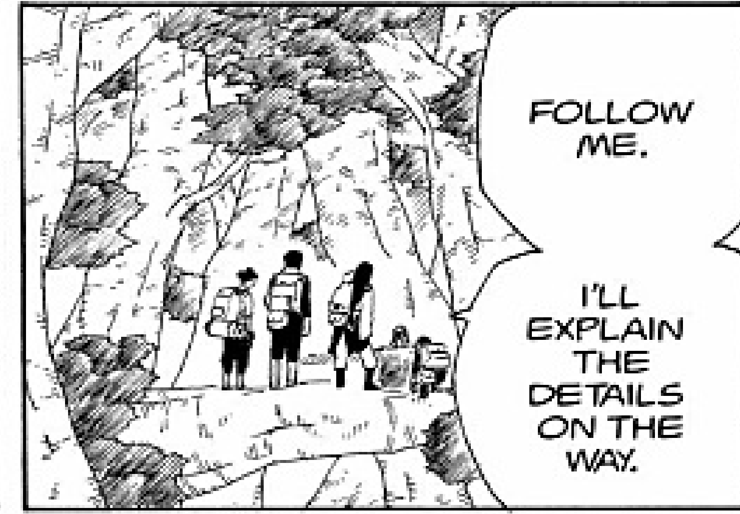



AS KAKASHI ORDERED, WE EIGHT NINJA DOGS...
...FANNED OUT IN ALL DIRECTIONS AND FOLLOWED THE AKATSUKI'S SCENT.


AND...
...WE FOUND OUT THEY WERE HEADING TO THE LAND OF RIVERS, LOCATED BETWEEN KONOHA AND SUNA.

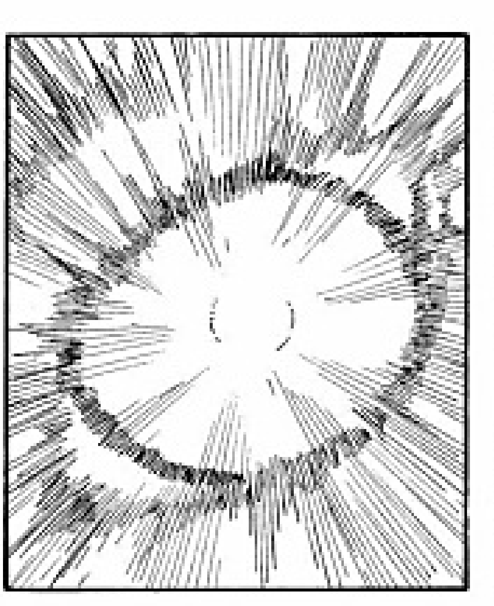

THAT MEANS THAT YOU GUYS COMING FROM KONOHA HEADING TOWARD SUNA...
...ARE CLOSEST TO THE AKATSUKI ...

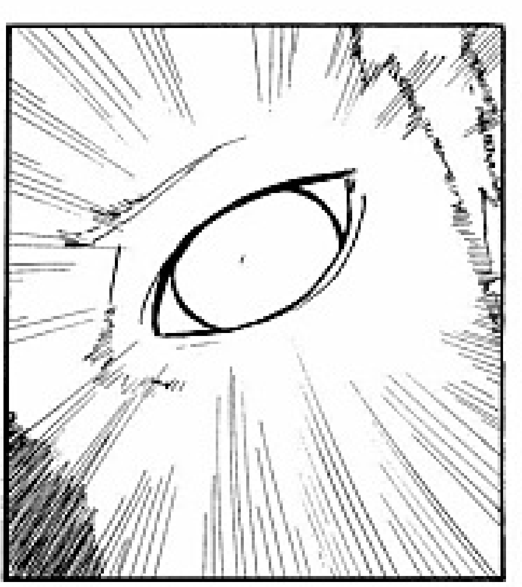

I SEE...

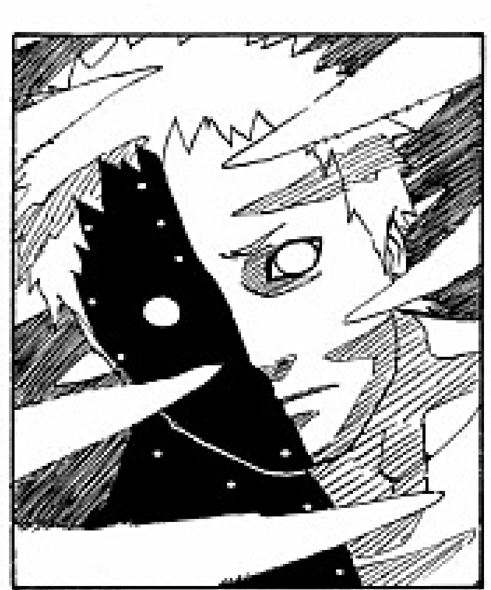

FOLLOW ME.
I'LL EXPLAIN THE DETAILS ON THE WAY.

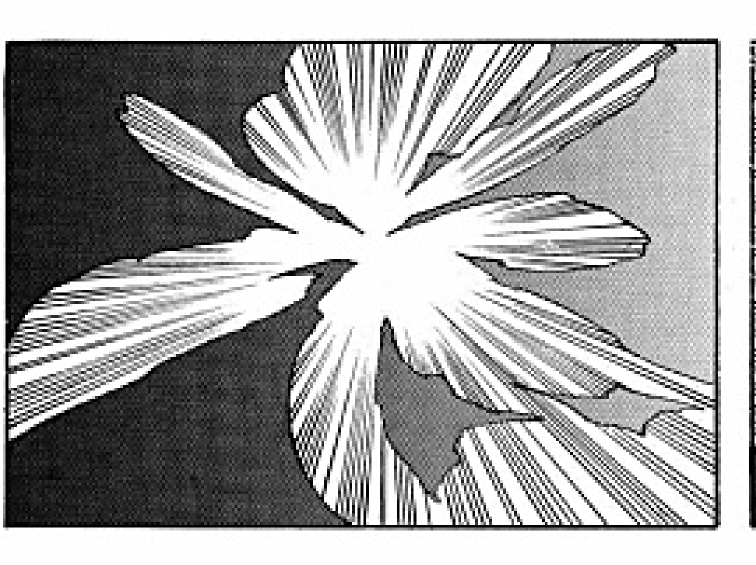

OKAY, EVERY-ONE! MOVE OUT!

...



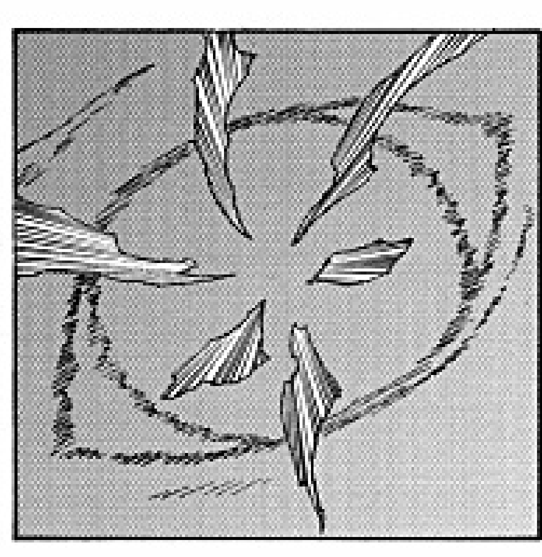




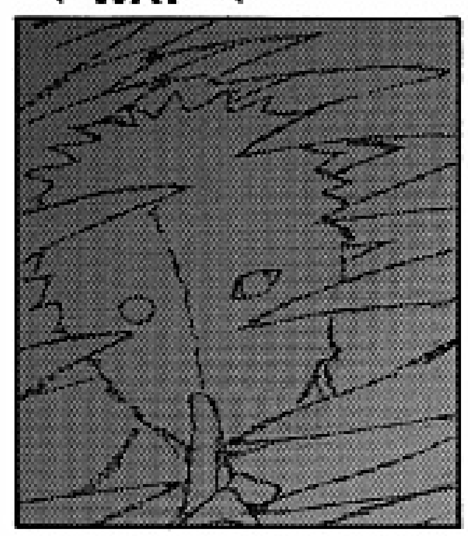


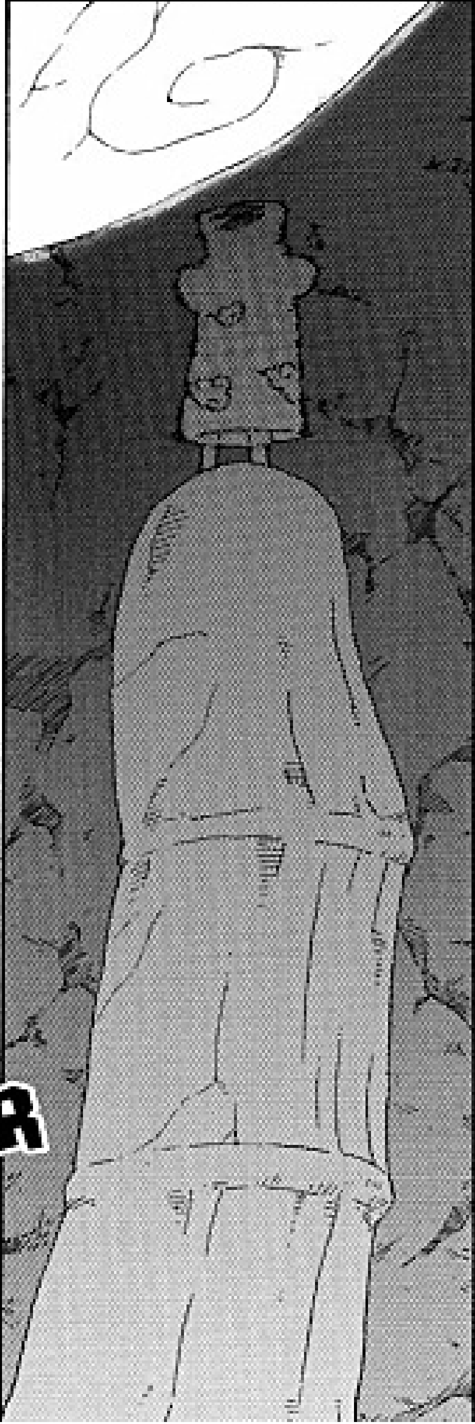


READ THIS WAY





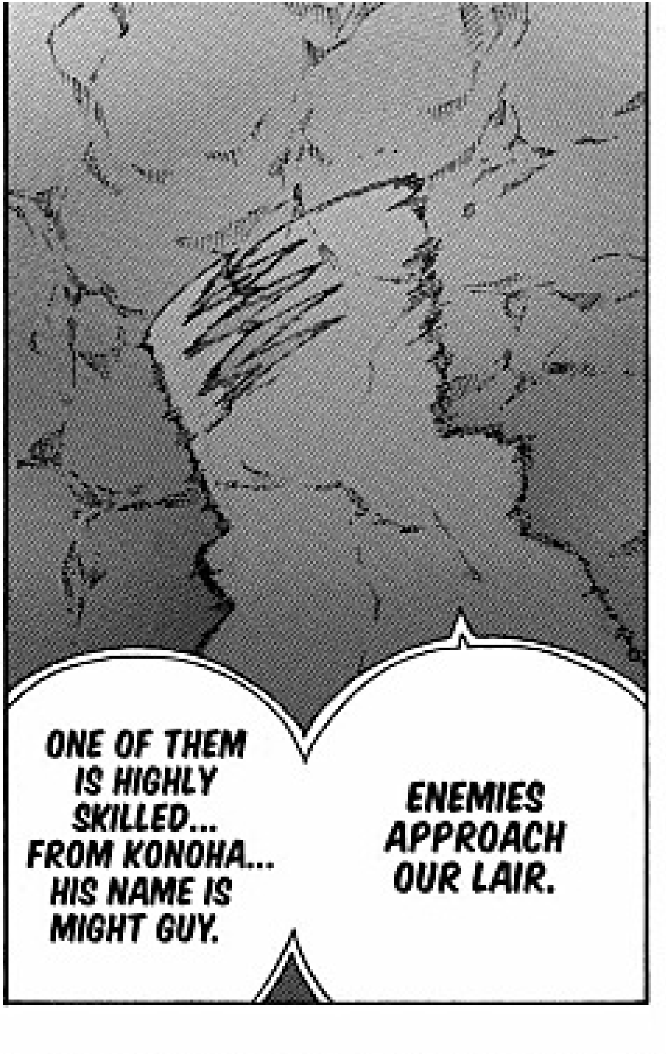




ZZUR
ZZUR

ZZUR
ZZUR

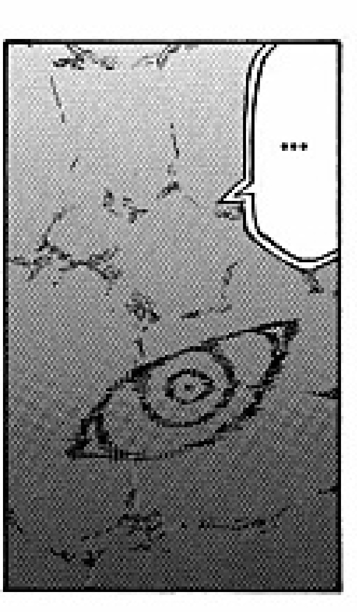
ZOOOOP
AAUGH...



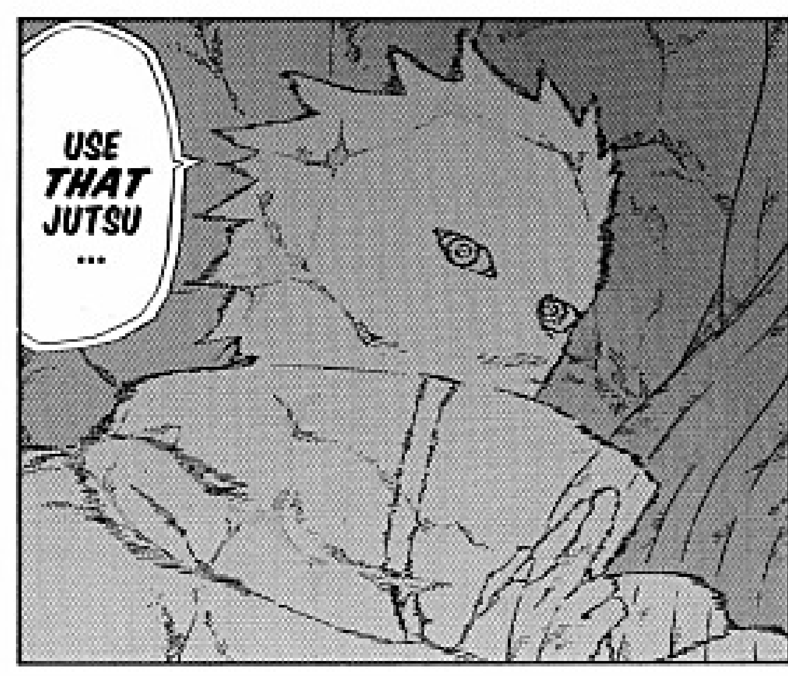






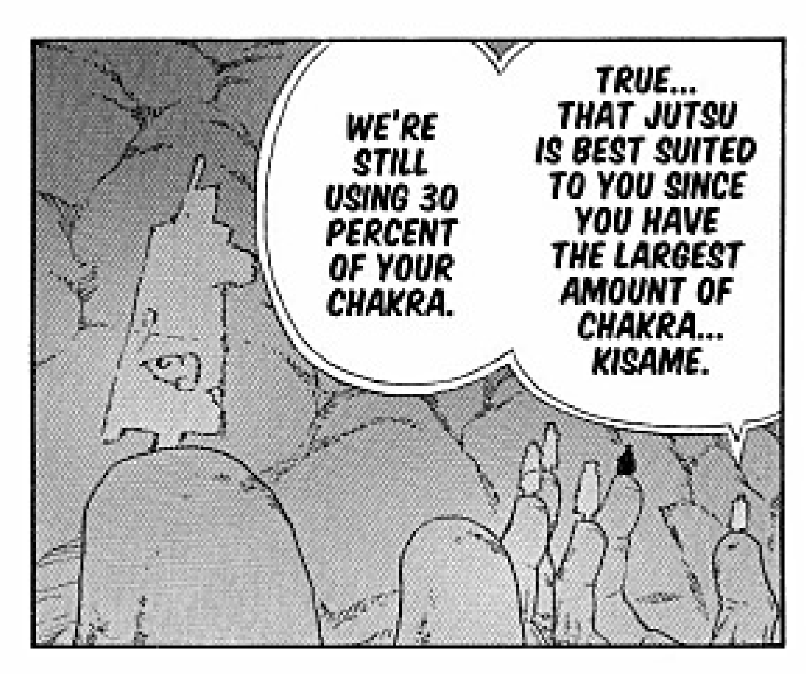


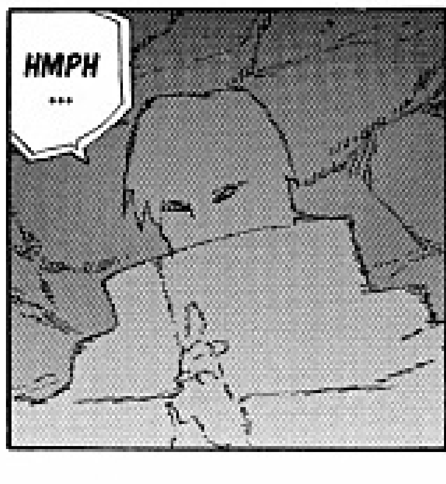

READ THIS WAY


USE THAT JUTSU ...


IN THAT CASE, I'LL GO...
I'M ALREADY FRUSTRATED ABOUT NOT FINDING OUR JINCHÛRIKI SOONER...


NO... I'LL GO.
FATE HAS GIVEN ME A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH HIM...

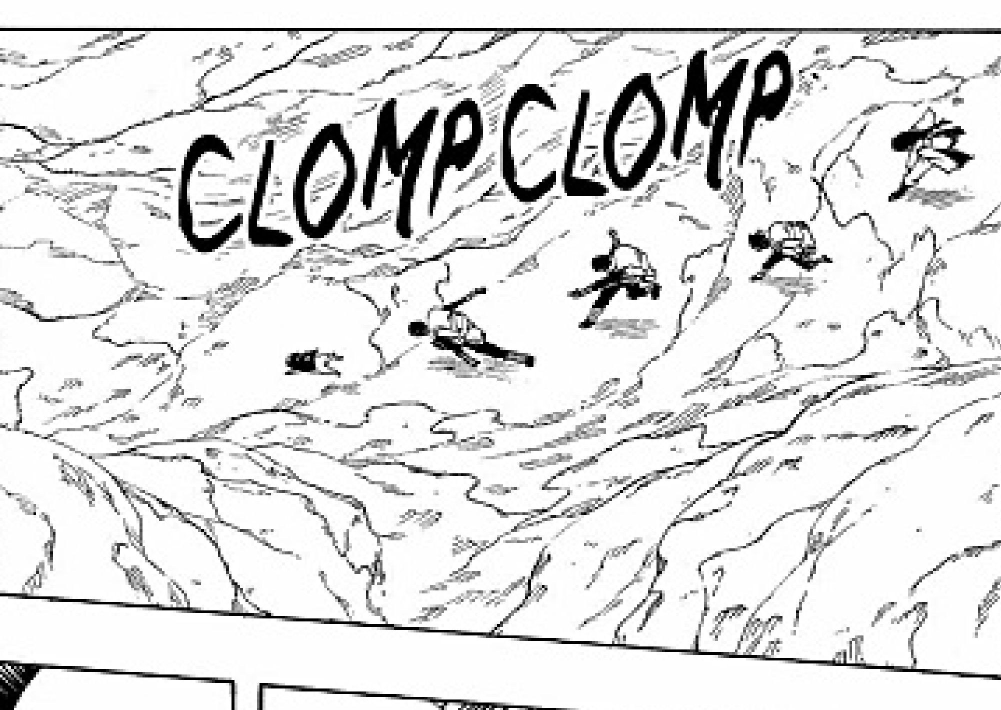

TRUE... THAT JUTSU IS BEST SUITED TO YOU SINCE YOU HAVE THE LARGEST AMOUNT OF CHAKRA... KISAME.
WE'RE STILL USING 30 PERCENT OF YOUR CHAKRA.


HMPH ...


WELL, WELL... FINALLY ...


IT'S PAY-BACK TIME!


READ
THIS
WAY


CLOMP CLOMP


!!
SNIFF SNIFF


WHAT'S WRONG?
SOME-ONE'S COMING!


BYAKUGAN! THE ALL-SEEING EYE!!


!


BEHIND US!

RRRR RUMMMBLE

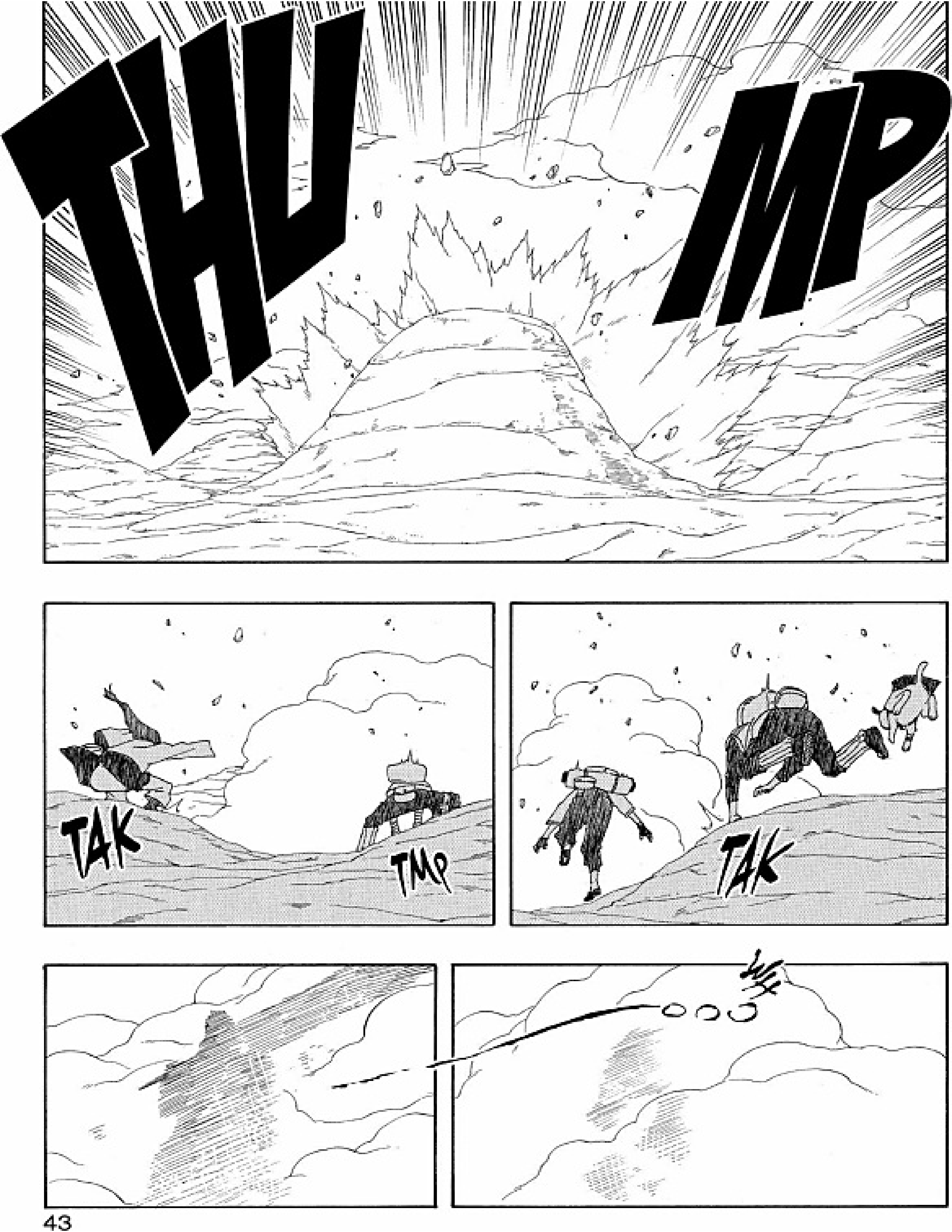











THUMP
TAK
TMP
TAK


CRUMBLE
KLAK











I GUESS THE STRANGE BEAST ***IS*** AS DUMB AS HE LOOKS.

WELL, I'LL MAKE SURE YOU REMEMBER SOON ENOUGH...

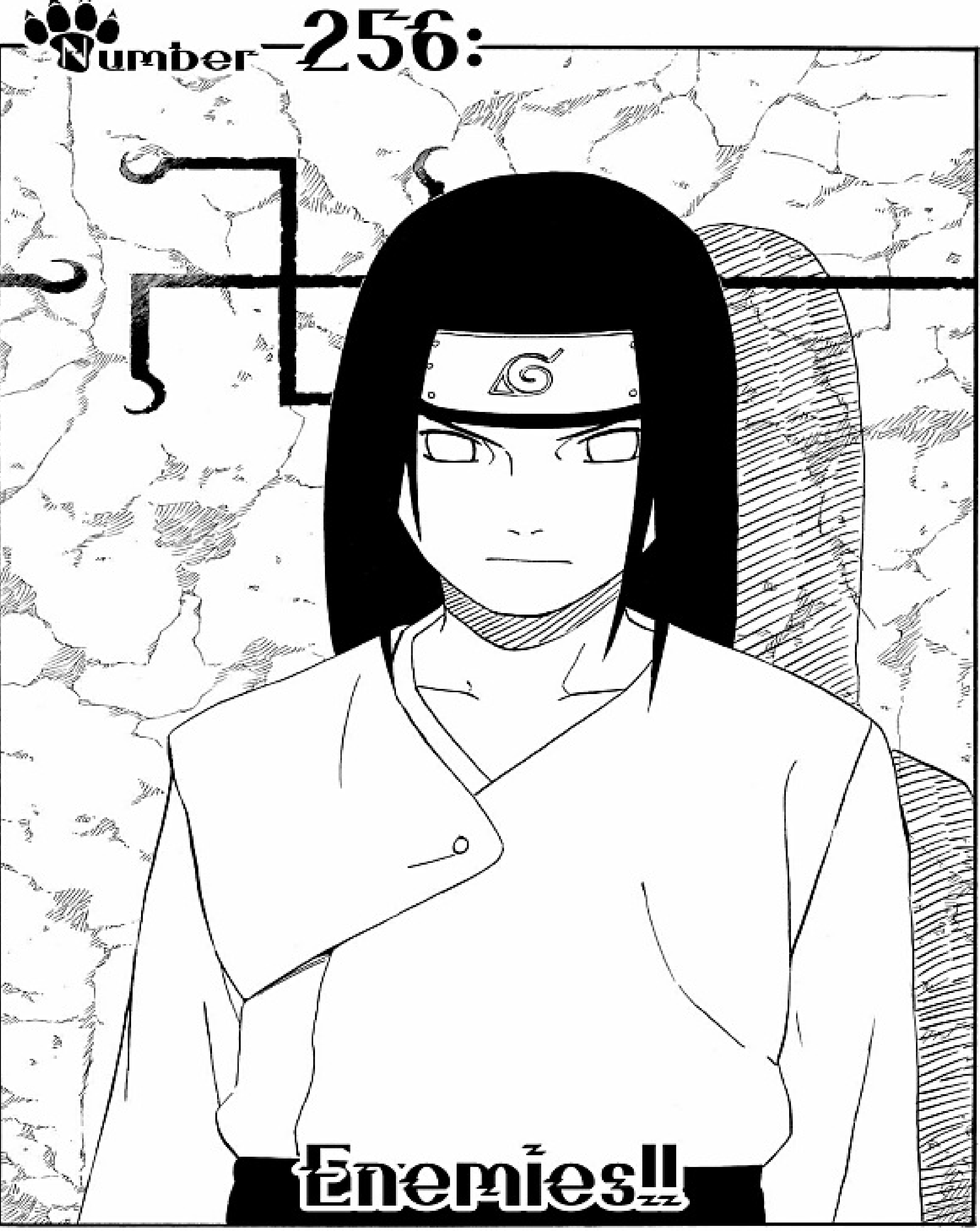
THE WORLD OF KISHIMOTO MASASHI
MY PERSONAL HISTORY:
FIGHTING AGAINST CHAOS, PART 2

WHEN I PUT MY HEAD INTO THE COIN PURSE CUSHION, I WAS SATISFIED TO CONFIRM THAT, JUST AS I SUSPECTED, MY HEAD FIT INSIDE. THEN I TRIED TO PULL MY HEAD OUT OF THE COIN PURSE CUSHION. ...BUT, WHEN I ACTUALLY TRIED TO PULL IT OFF, I COULDN'T! MY EARS WERE COMPLETELY STUCK! THE INSIDE OF THE CUSHION WAS ALMOST ENTIRELY STUFFED WITH COTTON OR SOMETHING AND, AS I HURRIEDLY TRIED TO PULL MY HEAD OUT, THE CUSHION'S INNER SURFACE STUCK TO MY NOSE, AND I COULDN'T BREATHE! "THIS COULD BE VERY BAD!" I THOUGHT AND STARTED TO GET REALLY NERVOUS. I FLOUNDERED AROUND, TRYING TO OPEN THE COIN PURSE CUSHION WITH BOTH ARMS AS HARD AS I COULD.

THEN MY ASSISTANTS NOTICED AND ASKED, "WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MR. KISHIMOTO?" I THOUGHT, "YES!! MY ASSISTANTS WILL RESCUE ME!" AND I TRIED TO ASK THEM FOR HELP. ...JUST THEN I HEARD SOMETHING LIKE THE SOUND OF A CAMERA SHUTTER. I WASN'T SURE FROM INSIDE THE CUSHION BECAUSE I COULDN'T SEE, BUT I COULD IMAGINE WHAT WAS GOING ON. ALL OF MY ASSISTANTS WERE LAUGHING OUT LOUD AND TAKING PICTURES WITH THEIR CELL PHONE CAMERAS! OF ALL THINGS, THEY WERE TAKING PICTURES! THEY WEREN'T RESCUING ME; THEY WERE LAUGHING AND TAKING PICTURES! "NO! THEY'RE NOT TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY!!" I THOUGHT, AND MADE UP MY MIND THAT I HAD TO GET THE CUSHION OFF BY MYSELF. I PULLED HARD AND IT HURT SO MUCH THAT I THOUGHT MY EARS WERE GOING TO TEAR OFF. THEN, FINALLY, I WAS ABLE TO FREE MYSELF. NEEDLESS TO SAY, MY NAP TIME WAS COMPLETELY RUINED BY THAT CRAZY INCIDENT. I EXPECTED THERE WOULD BE AT LEAST ONE SANE PERSON WHO WOULD SAY, "ARE YOU OKAY, MR. KISHIMOTO?!" ...BUT THERE WASN'T. IT'S TRUE THAT THE ASSISTANTS HAD VERY LITTLE SLEEP AND WENT A BIT NUTTY. ALL OF THEM WERE UNDER THE SPELL OF THE USUAL CHAOS. IT WAS THEN THAT I PLEDGED... I WILL FIGHT AGAINST THIS CHAOS!

WARNING: DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME!





(THE SYMBOL PICTURED ABOVE, CALLED A MANJI, IS TRADITIONAL IN BUDDHIST IMAGERY.)


...
THIS GUY... HAS AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF CHAKRA.
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE BUT NARUTO WITH THIS MUCH!
SSH
SO THIS IS... THE AKATSUKI ...?
WHIRR
!
!
!
!


HAA AAAAA
WATER STYLE! EXPLODING WATER SHOCK-WAVE!!
GLAP
SHF
SHF
SHF
FOOSH


HERE I COME !!
SPLOSH


SPLAM
FWOOSH
MMMMM



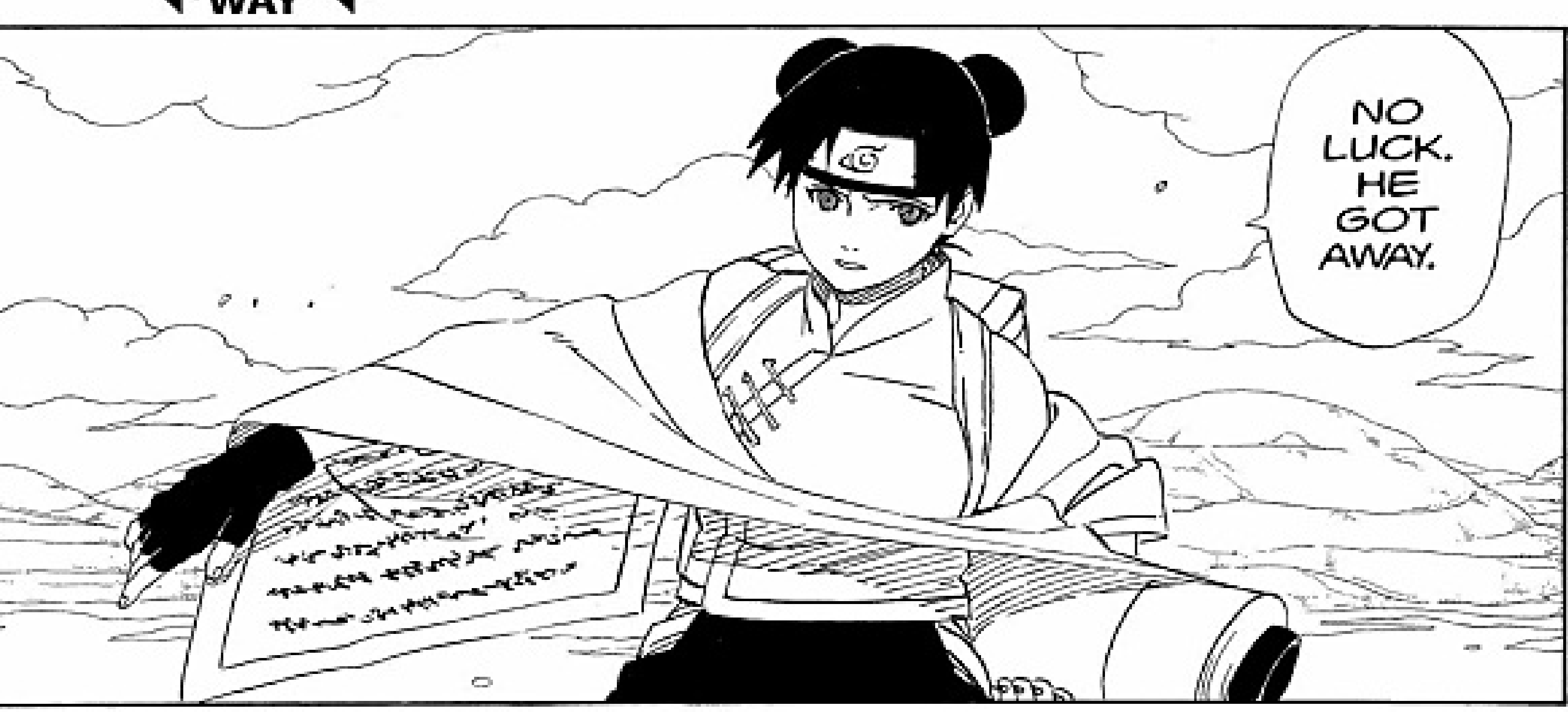
KONOHA RISING WIND!
THAK
K
!
WHAT?!
TAK

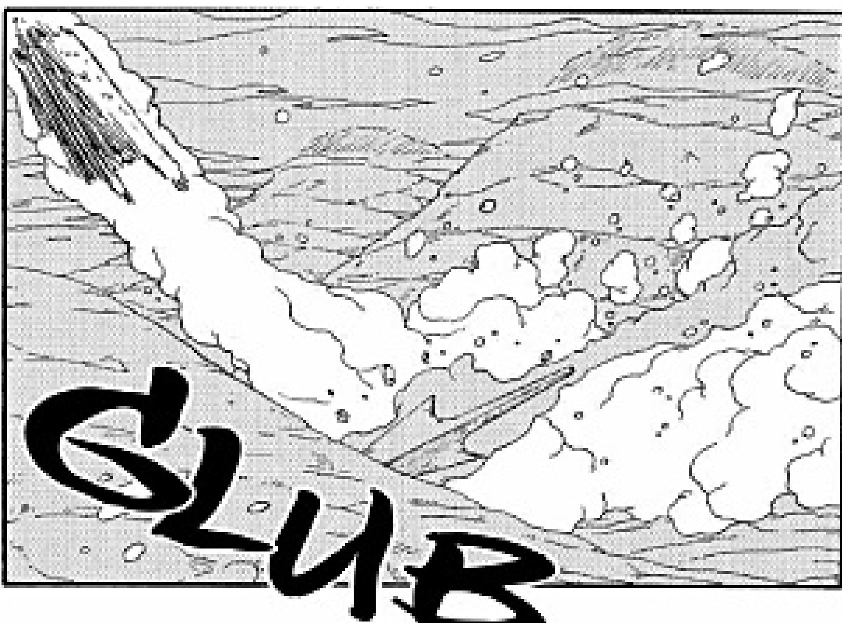

8 TRI-GRAMS AIR PALM!!
FWUP
!
BAM
SPLAM
SKSSSH
!

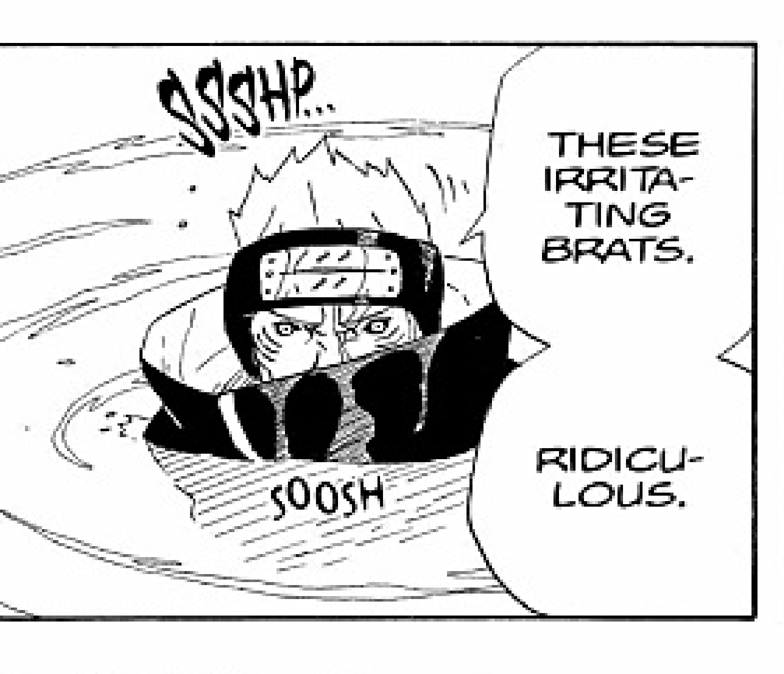


KLANK
!!
!
A BOMB!
FSSH
爆
BOOOM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM

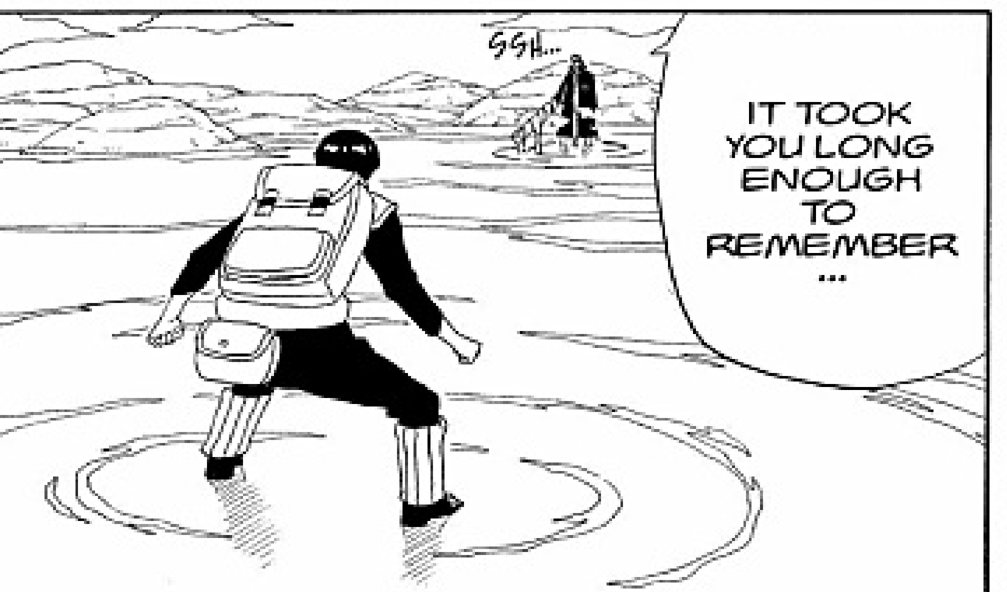

READ THIS WAY


NO LUCK. HE GOT AWAY.

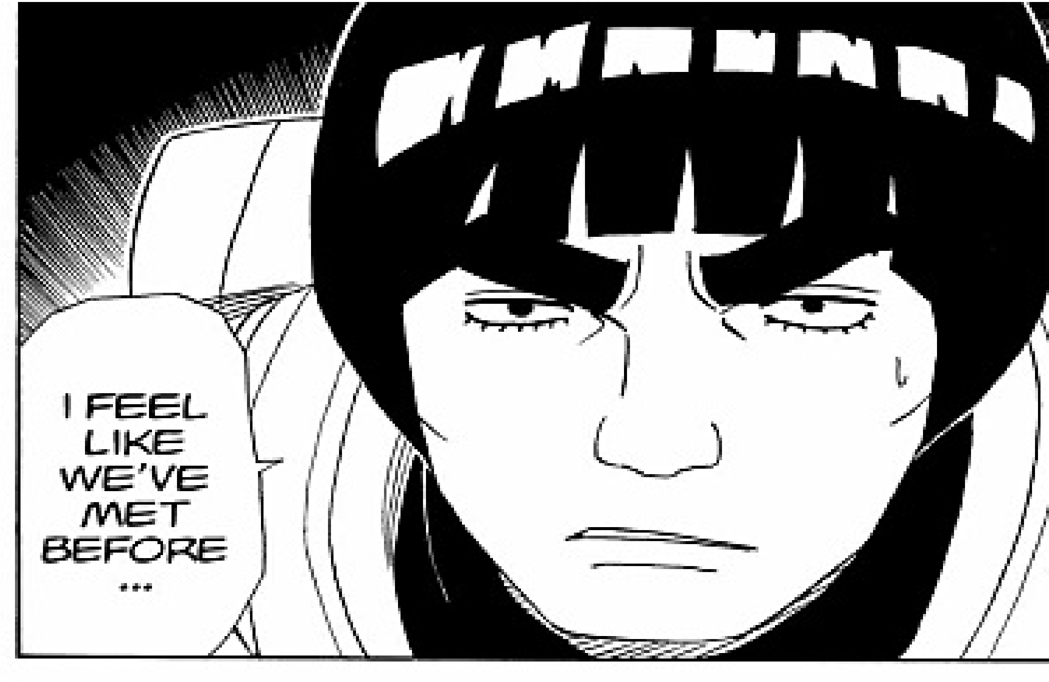

CLUB

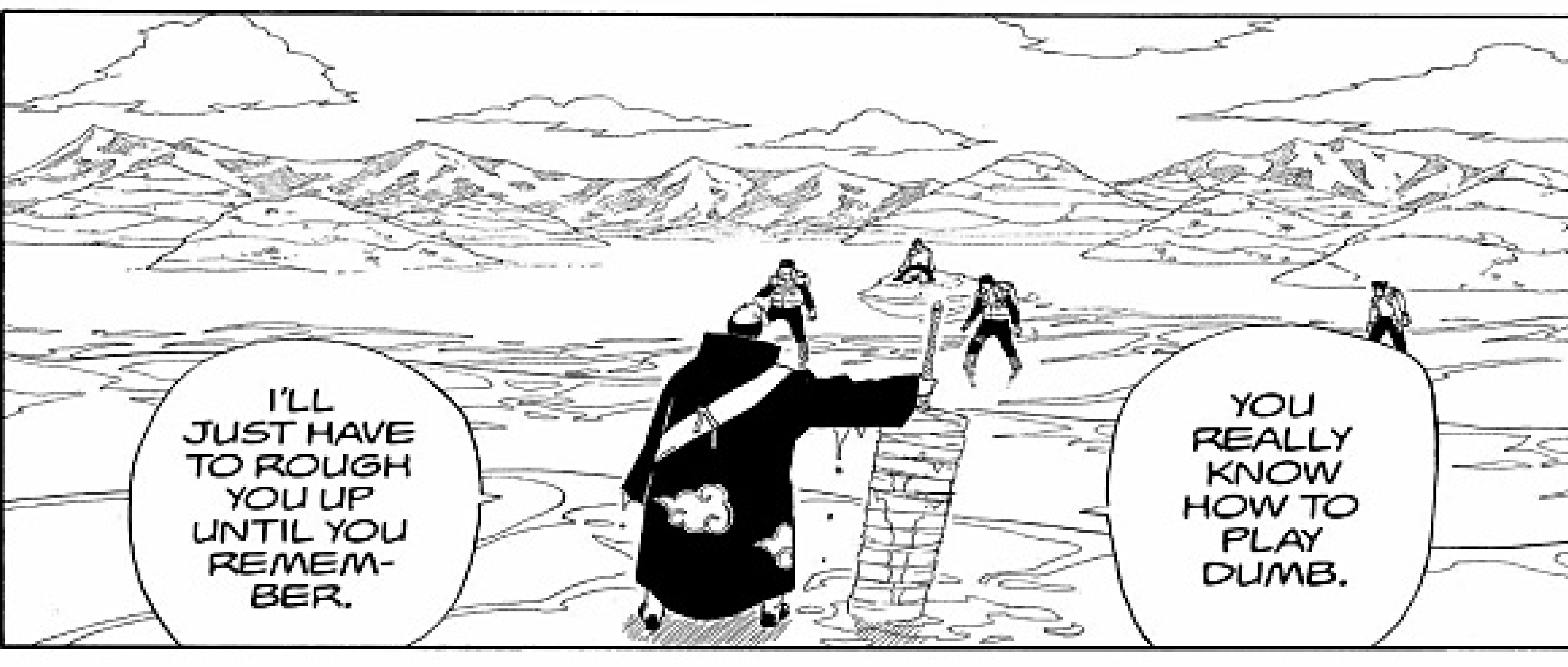

THESE IRRITA-TING BRATS.
RIDICU-LOUS.
SOOSH

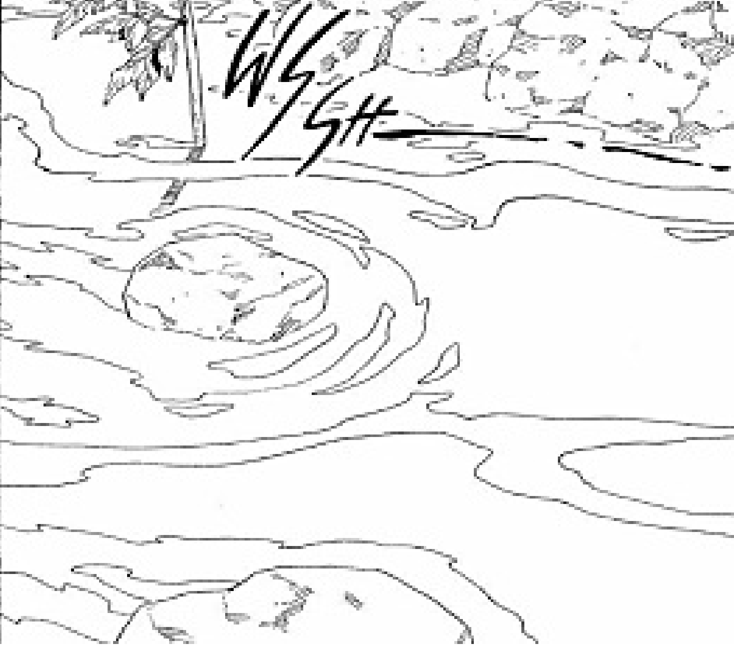

...WATER STYLE NINJUTSU WITH THAT HUGE SWORD...
YOU'RE ...

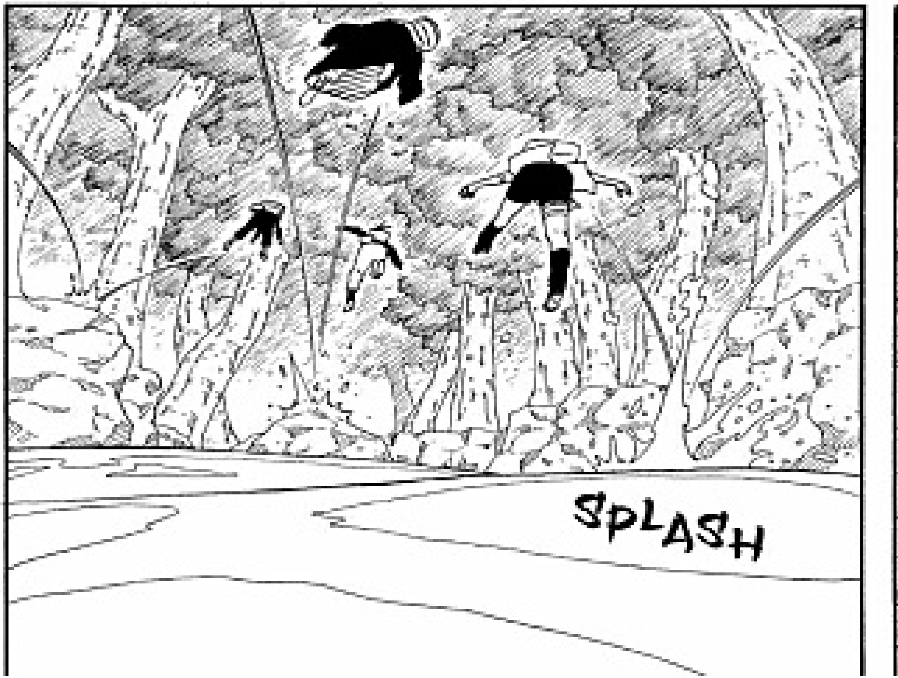

IT TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH TO REMEMBER ...


...


I FEEL LIKE WE'VE MET BEFORE ...

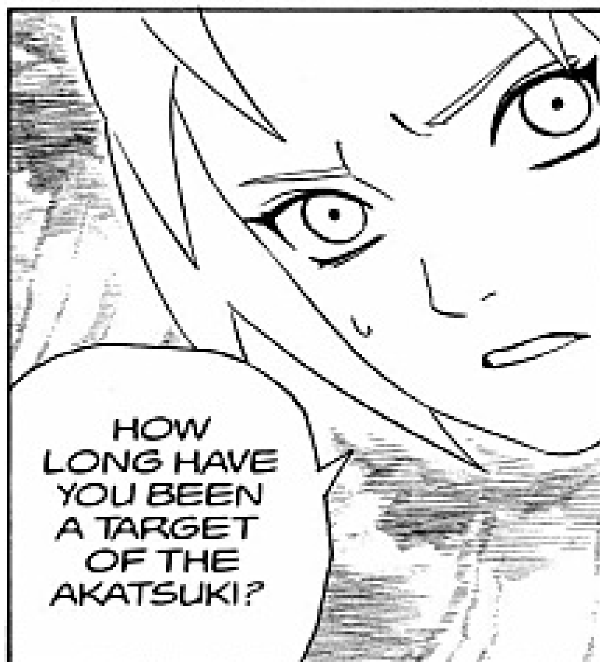

YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO PLAY DUMB.
I'LL JUST HAVE TO ROUGH YOU UP UNTIL YOU REMEMBER.


WSSH


SPLASH

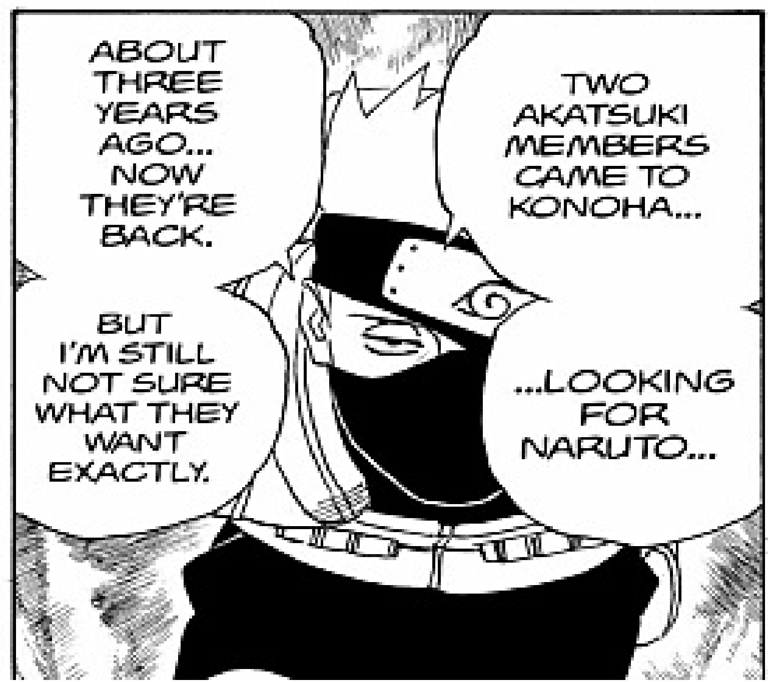

READ THIS WAY

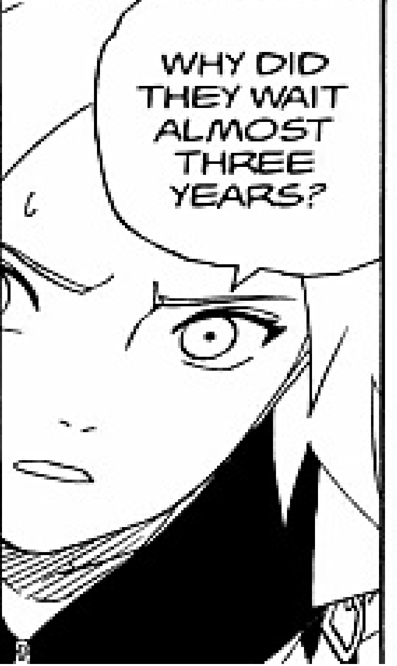

HEY, NARUTO. CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
?

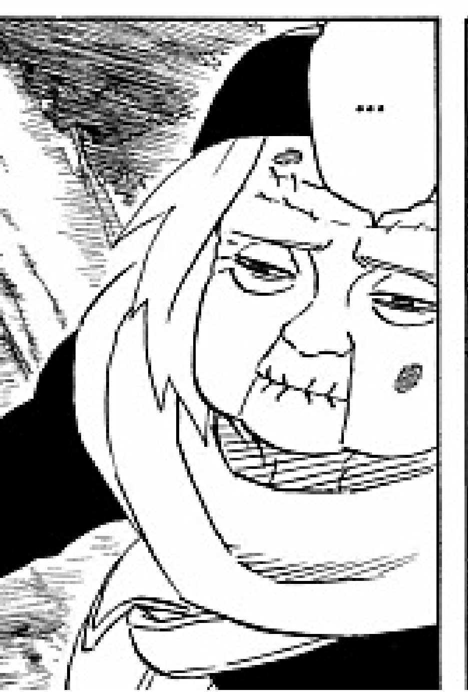

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A TARGET OF THE AKATSUKI?

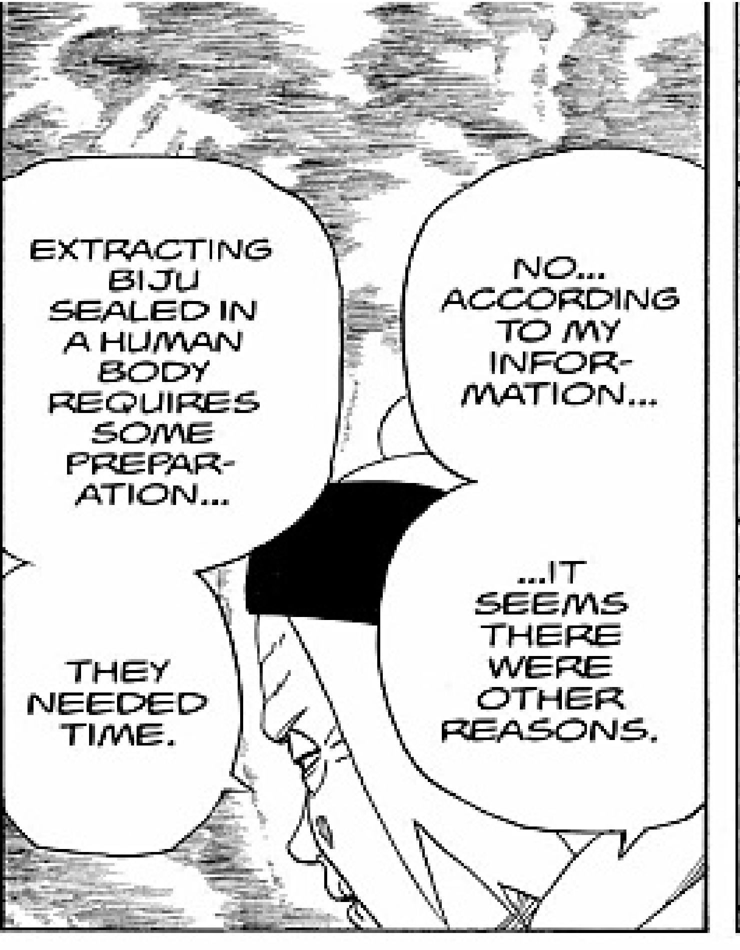

...


...
HOW SHOULD I KNOW ...?


TWO AKATSUKI MEMBERS CAME TO KONOHA...
...LOOKING FOR NARUTO...
ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO... NOW THEY'RE BACK.
BUT I'M STILL NOT SURE WHAT THEY WANT EXACTLY.


WHY DID THEY WAIT ALMOST THREE YEARS?

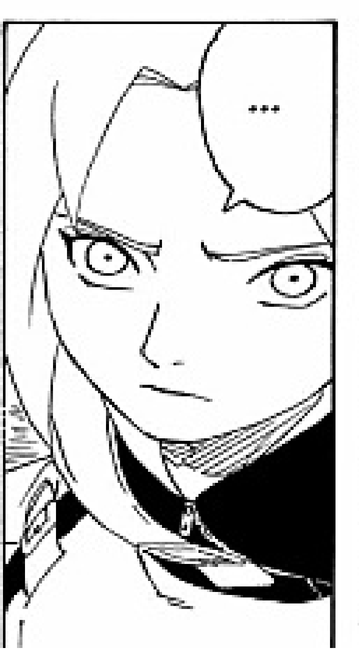

...


EXTRACTING BIJU SEALED IN A HUMAN BODY REQUIRES SOME PREPARATION...
THEY NEEDED TIME.
NO... ACCORDING TO MY INFORMATION...
...IT SEEMS THERE WERE OTHER REASONS.

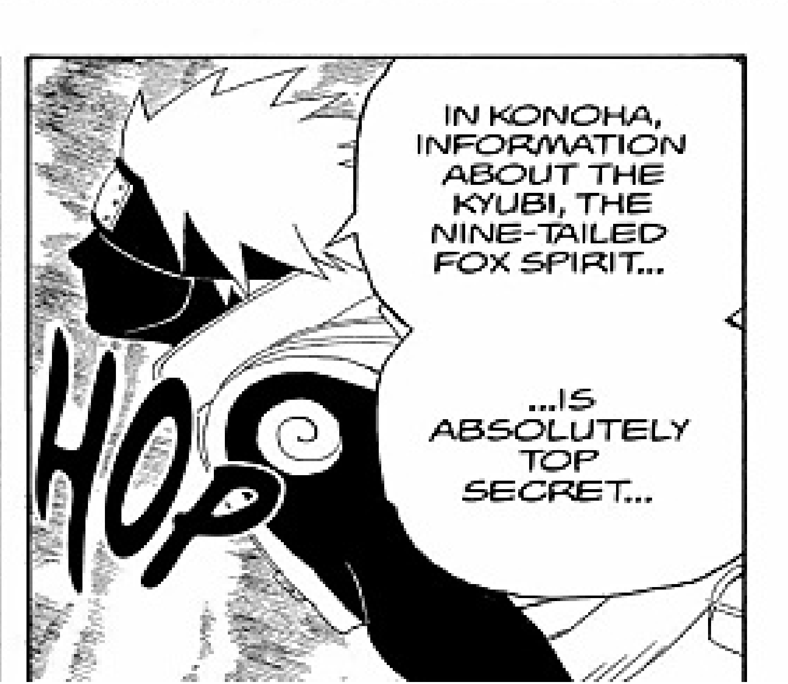

THEY PROBABLY COULDN'T DO ANYTHING, NOT THAT THEY JUST DIDN'T...
AFTER ALL, NARUTO WAS WITH LORD JIRAIYA...
TAK

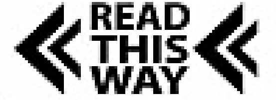

...WHAT'S A BIJU...?

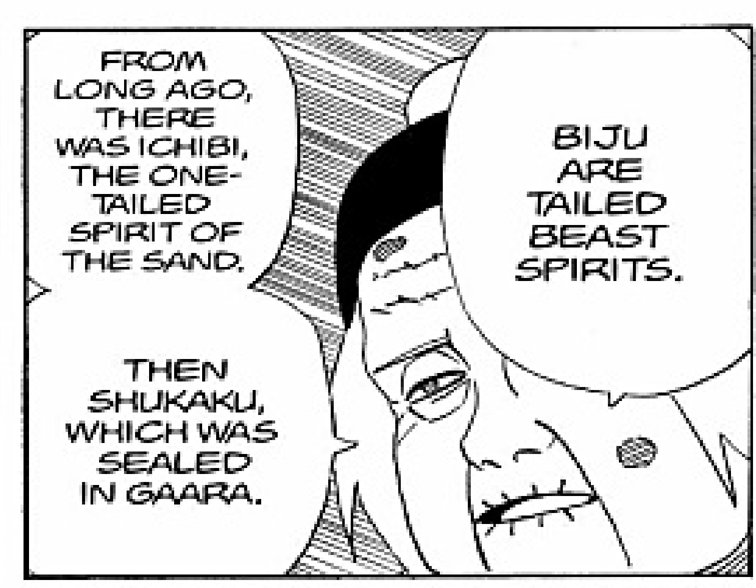

WHAT ?!
YOU'RE A PUPIL OF TSUNADE'S BUT DON'T KNOW THAT...?

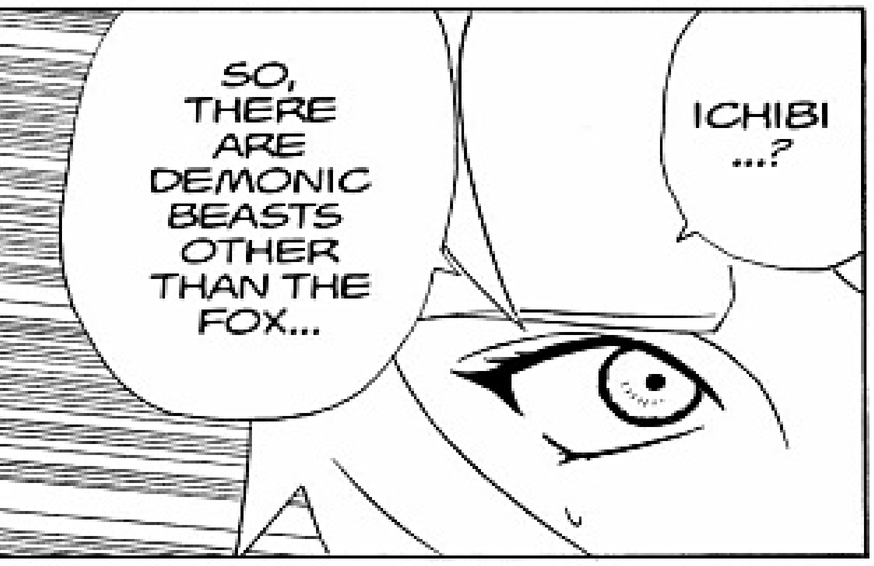

...

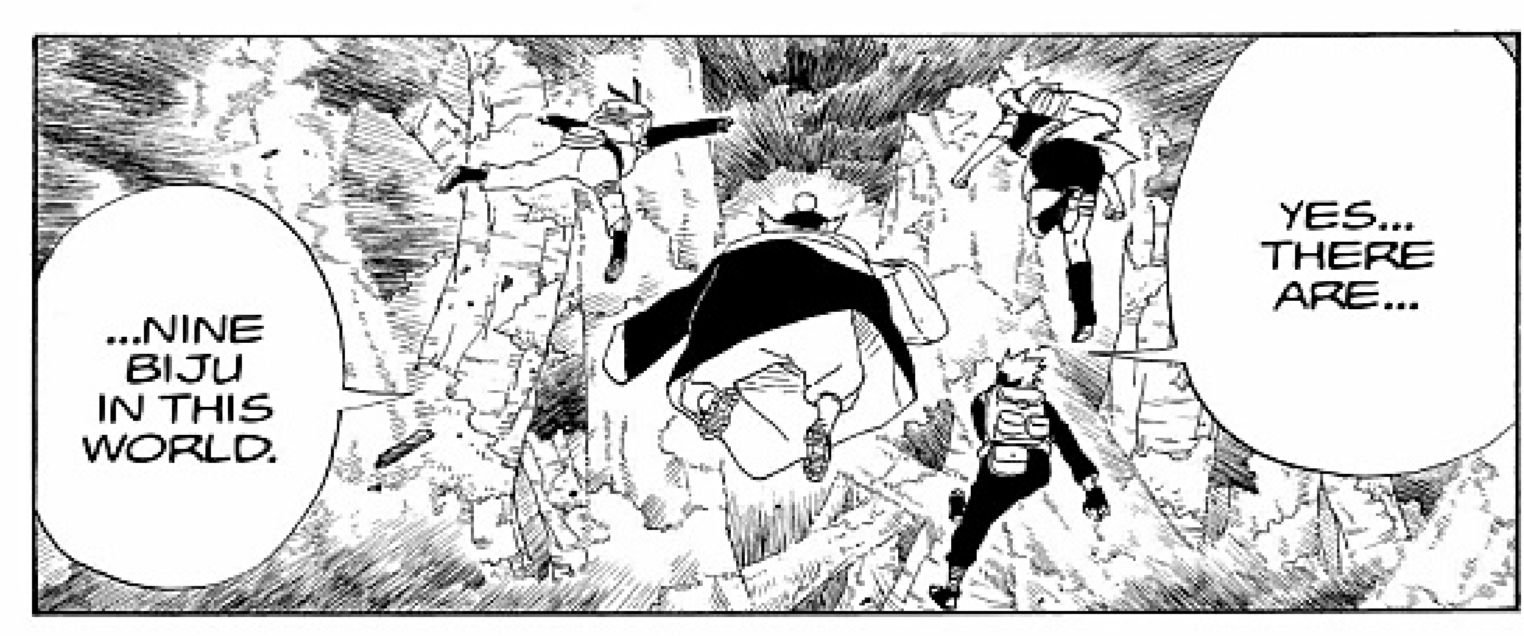

...WELL... THAT'S NOT SURPRISING ...


IN KONOHA, INFORMATION ABOUT THE KYUBI, THE NINE-TAILED FOX SPIRIT...
...IS ABSOLUTELY TOP SECRET...
HOP


READ THIS WAY

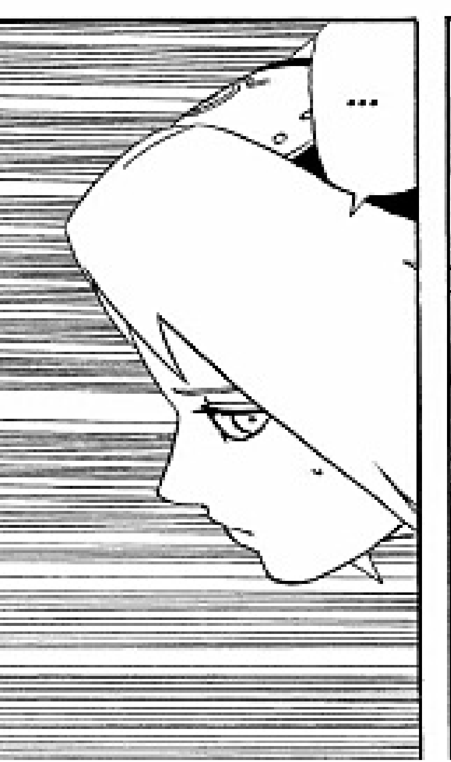

BIJU ARE TAILED BEAST SPIRITS.
FROM LONG AGO, THERE WAS ICHIBI, THE ONE-TAILED SPIRIT OF THE SAND.
THEN SHUKAKU, WHICH WAS SEALED IN GAARA.


ICHIBI ...?
SO, THERE ARE DEMONIC BEASTS OTHER THAN THE FOX...


YES... THERE ARE...
...NINE BIJU IN THIS WORLD.


...!

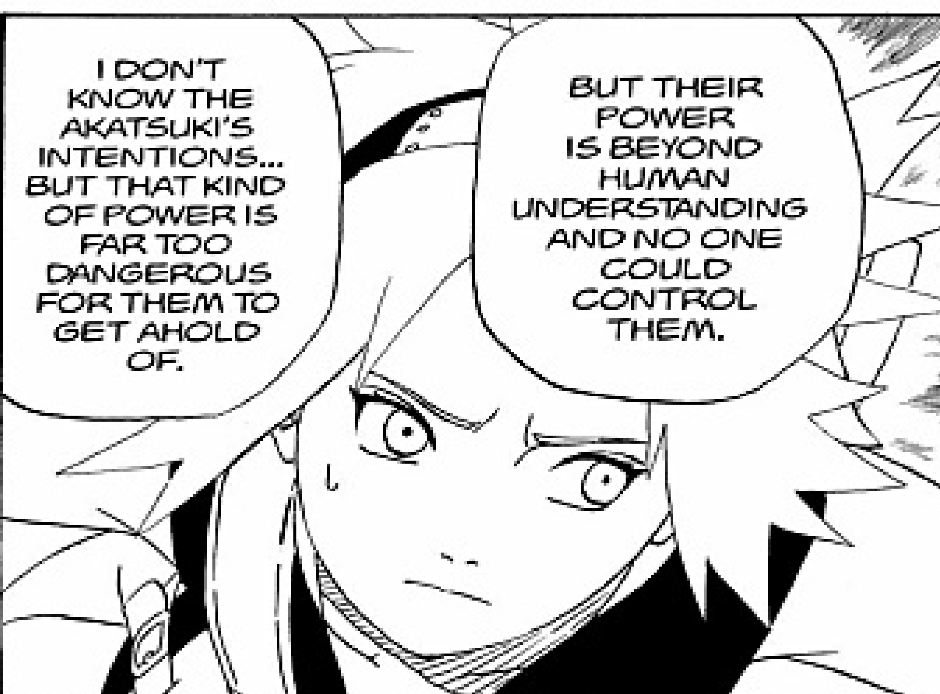

BIJU ARE DISTINCT IN CHARAC-TER...
EACH OF THEM HAS A DIFFERENT NUMBER OF TAILS.
ICHIBI MEANS ONE TAIL, NIBI IS TWO...
UP TO KYUBI, THE NINE-TAILED FOX SPIRIT. THEIR NAMES REPRESENT THE NUMBER OF TAILS THEY HAVE.


...

BIJU ARE HUGE CONCENTRATIONS OF CHAKRA.

DURING THE ERA OF GREAT WAR, EVERY NATION'S HIDDEN VILLAGE COMPETED FOR CONTROL OF THEM...

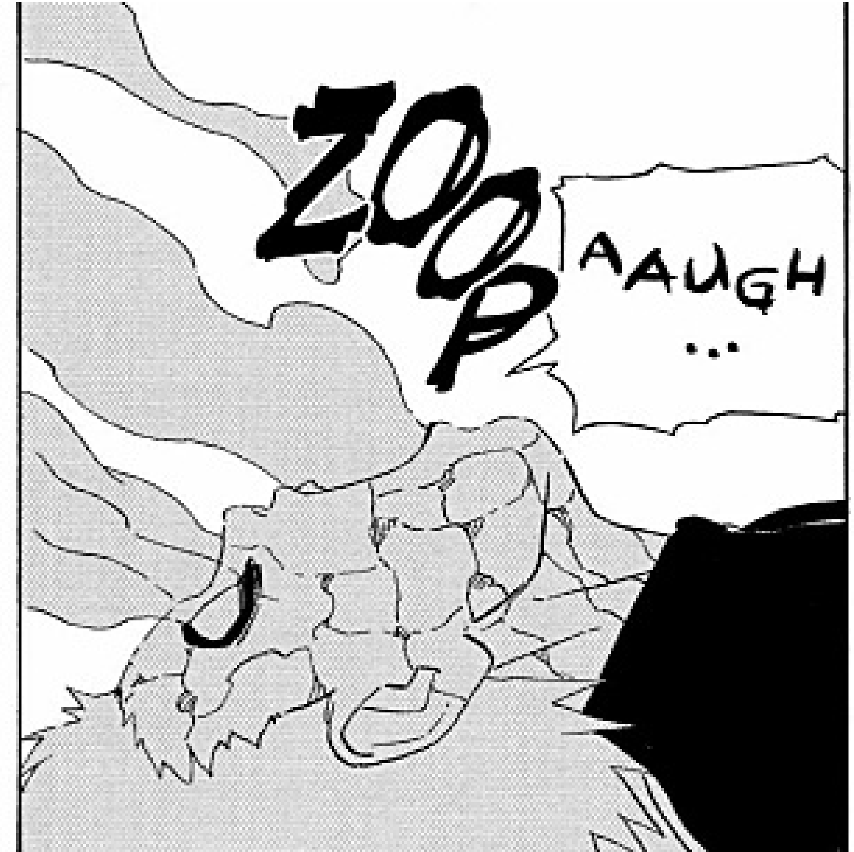
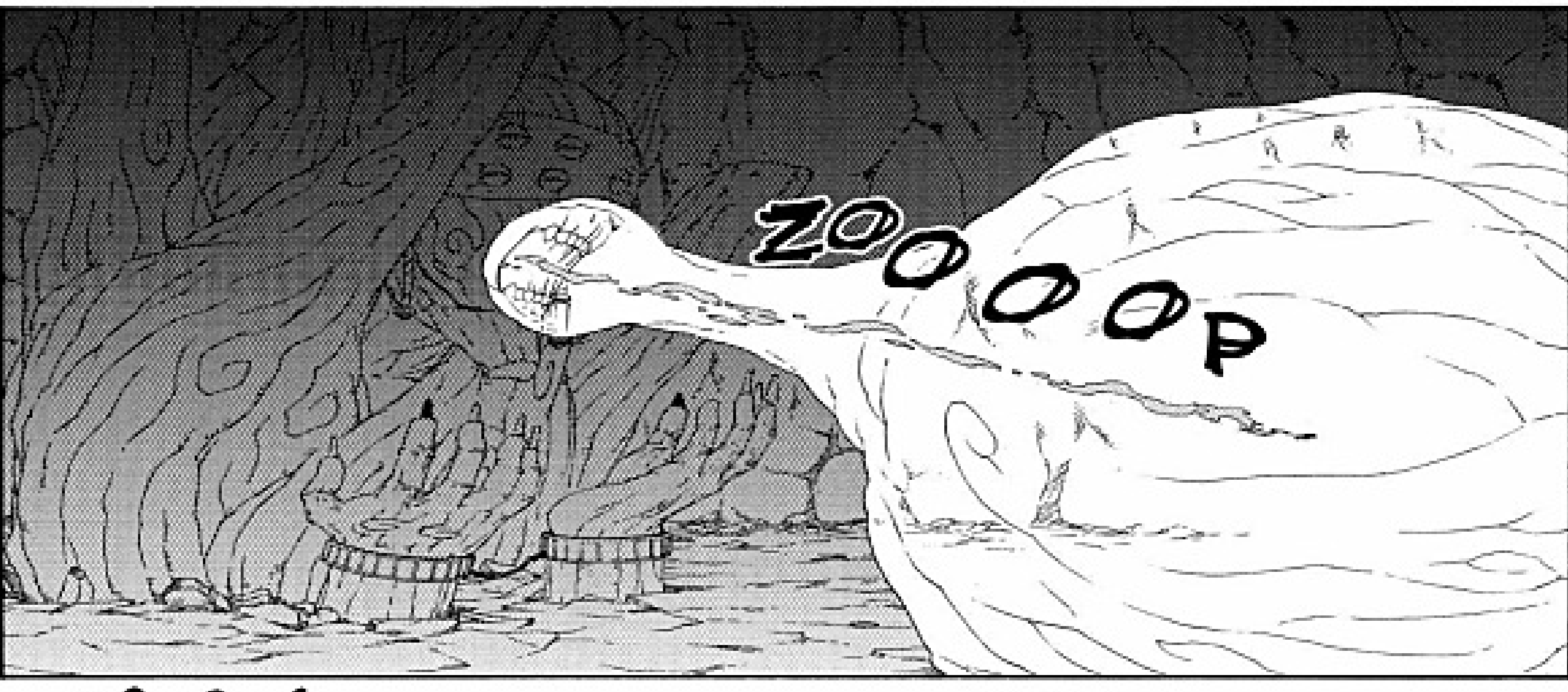
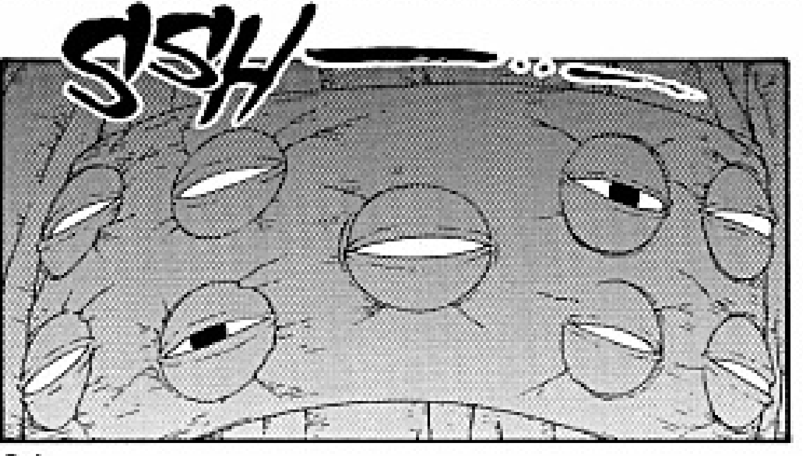
...FOR MILITARY PURPOSES.





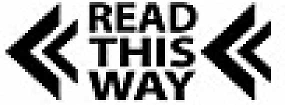


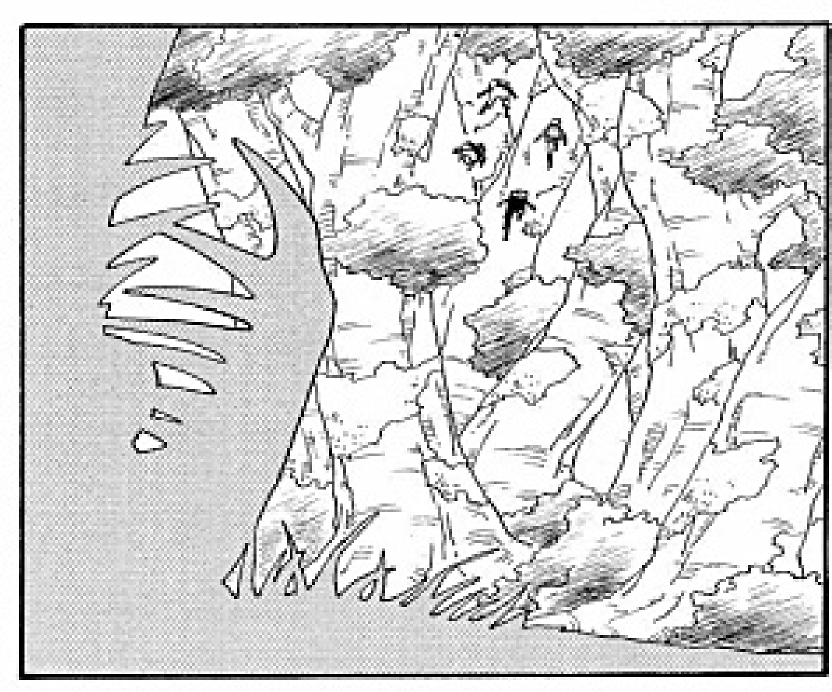


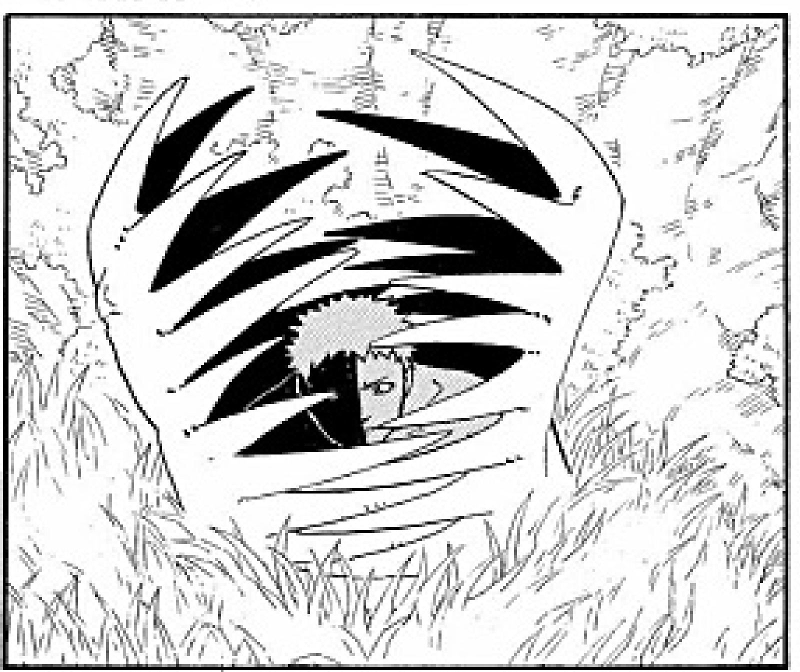

ZOOP

ZOOP
AAUGH ...

ZOOOOOP

SISH

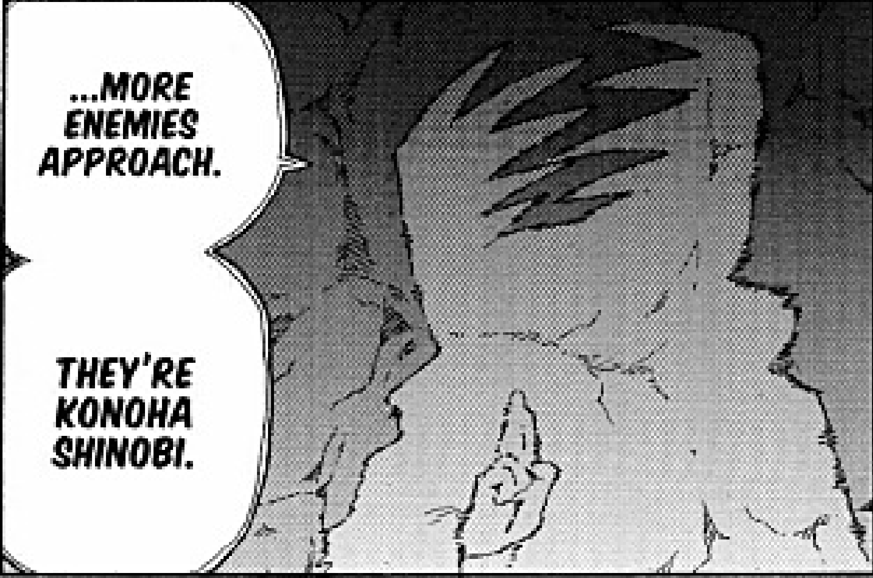
SPAK


FWOOOO

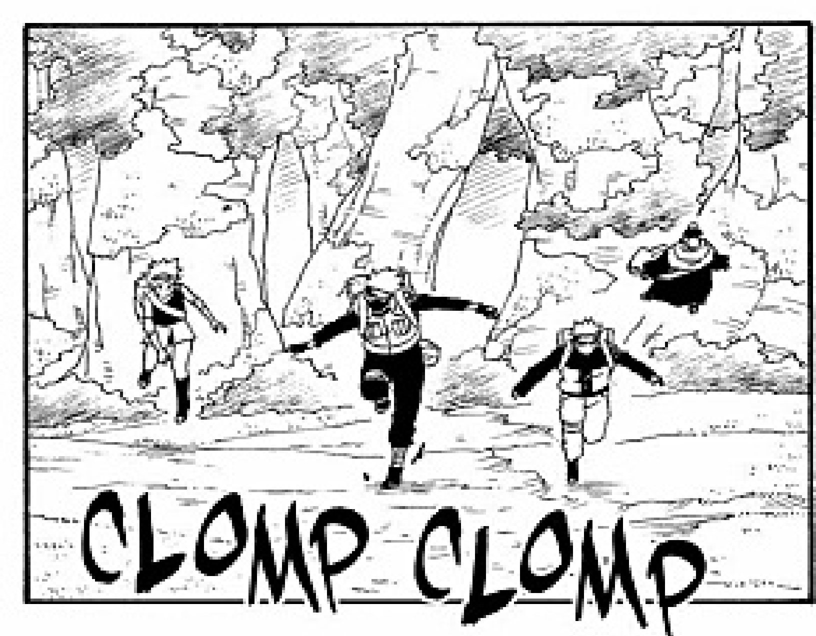

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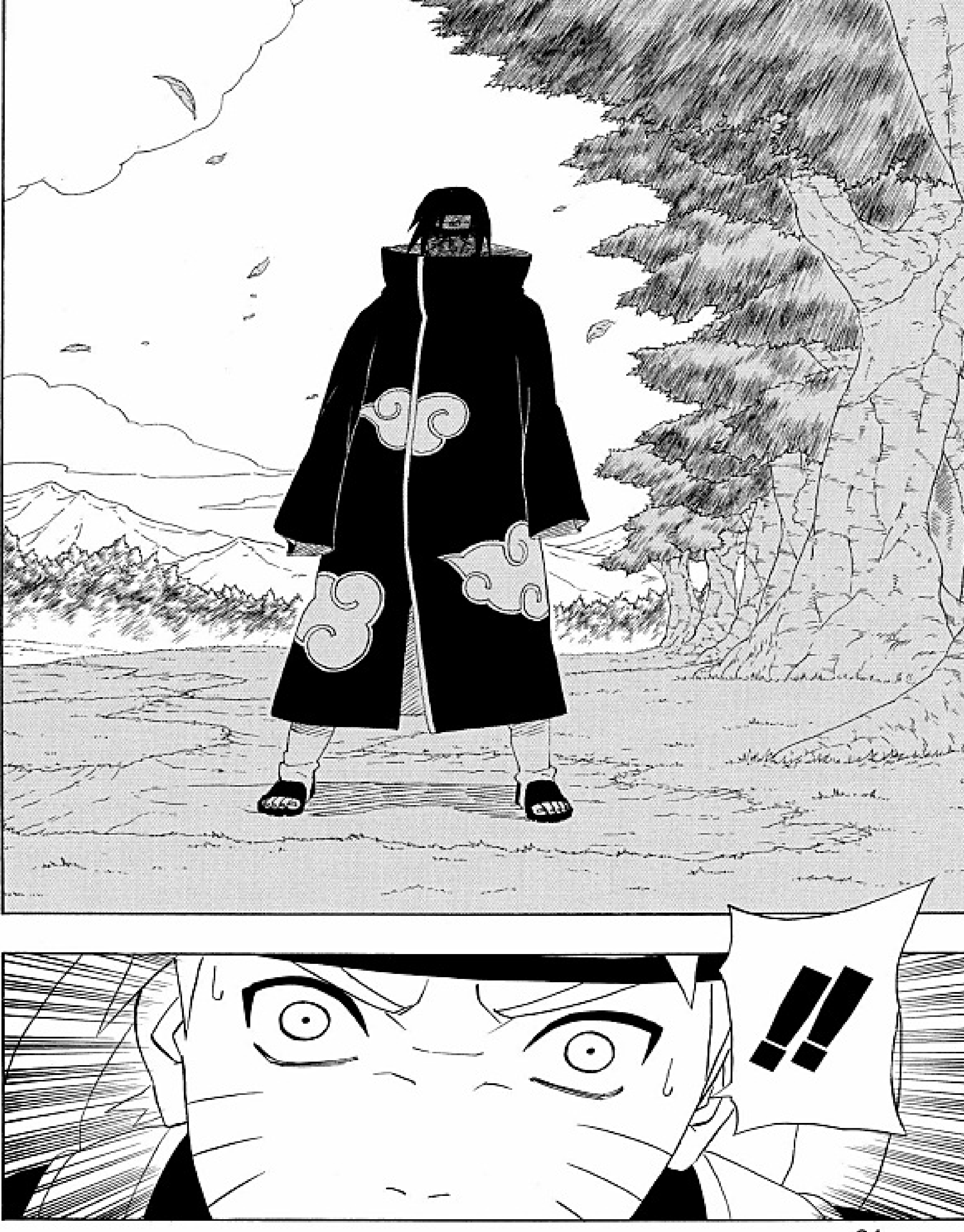


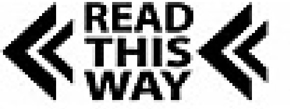

...MORE ENEMIES APPROACH.
THEY'RE KONOHA SHINOBI.

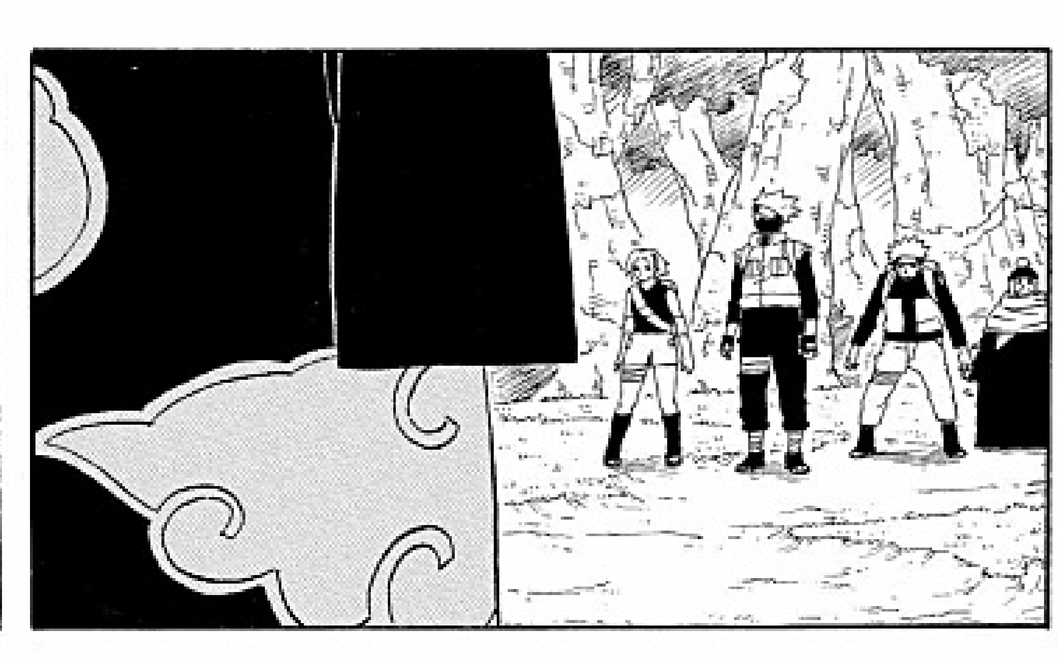

WELL...
WHO'S UP FOR THIS...?
SHUP
SHUP


CLOMP CLOMP


TAK!
STOP, EVERY-ONE!



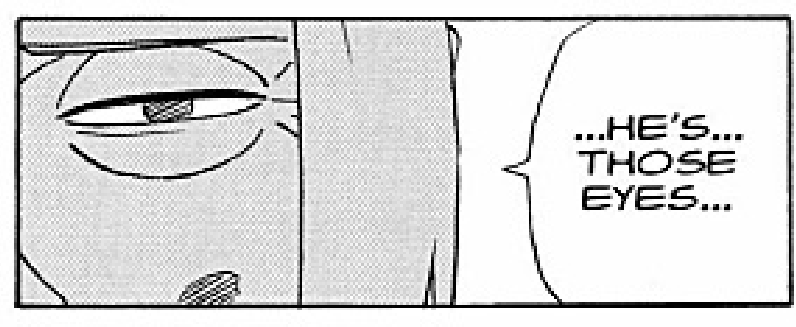

READ
THIS
WAY

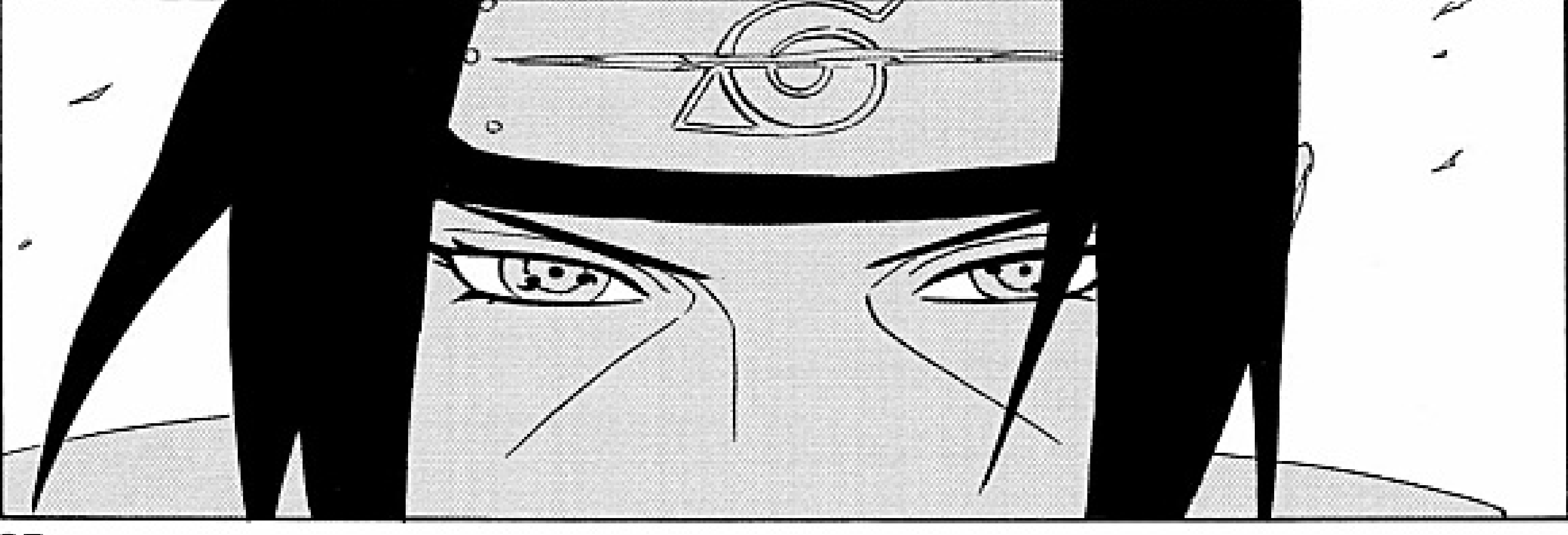



... WHO?


...
SO SOON ...?


UCHIHA ... ITACHI!


...HE'S... THOSE EYES...

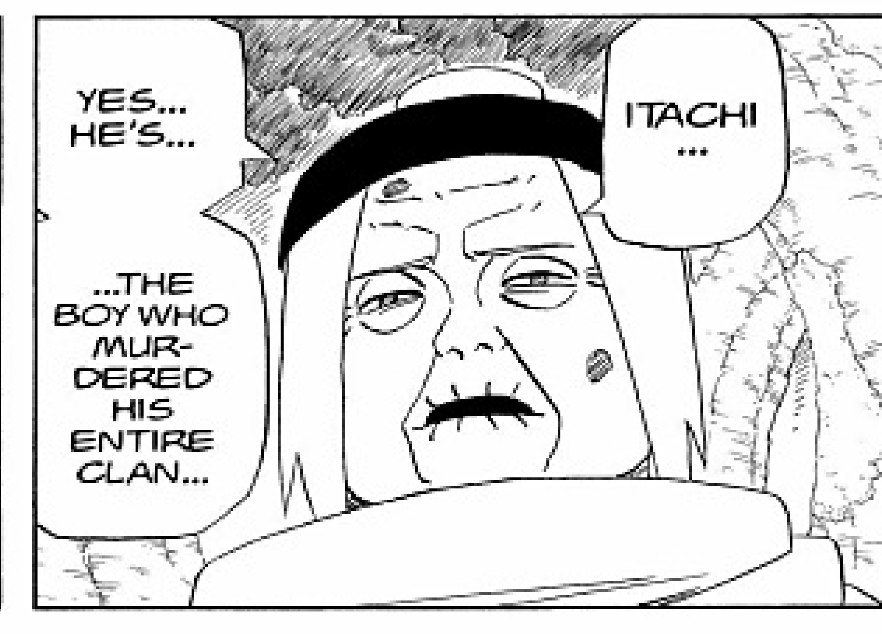



NARUTO

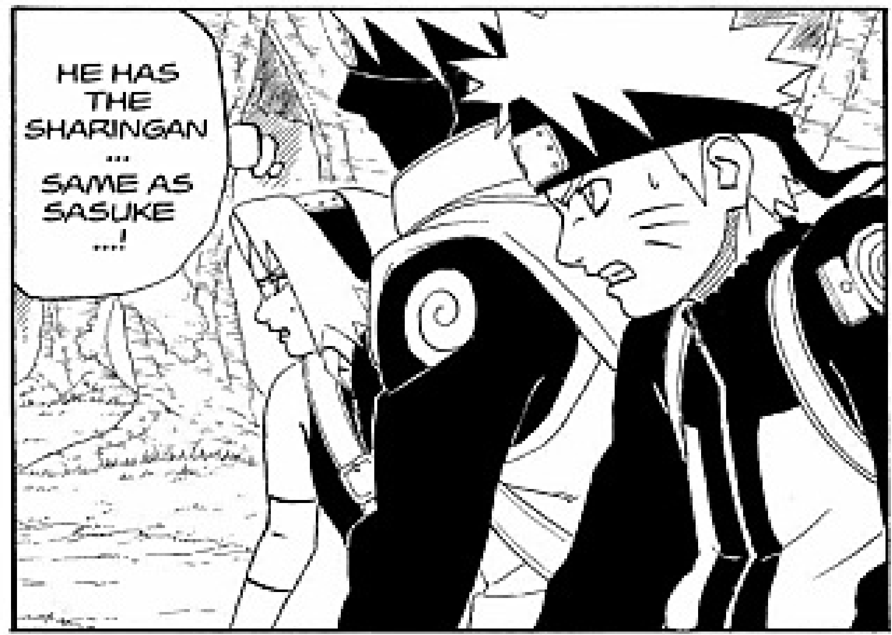
Number 257: Kakashi Comes Through

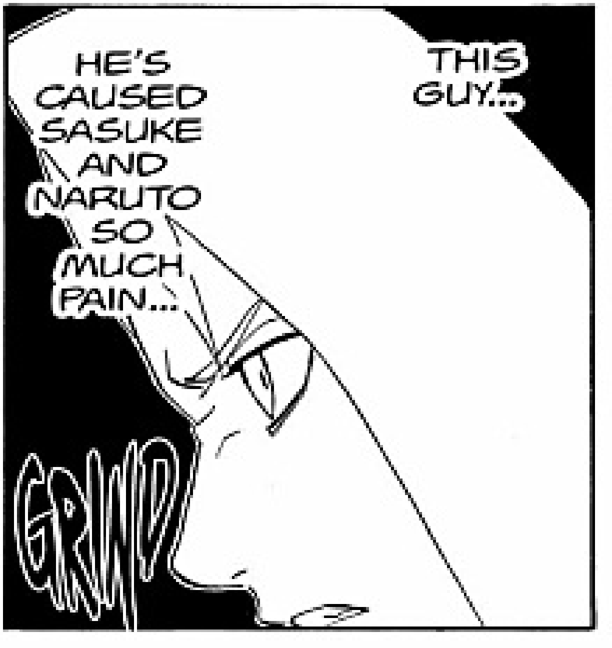
HE'S...

UCHIHA... ITACHI?!

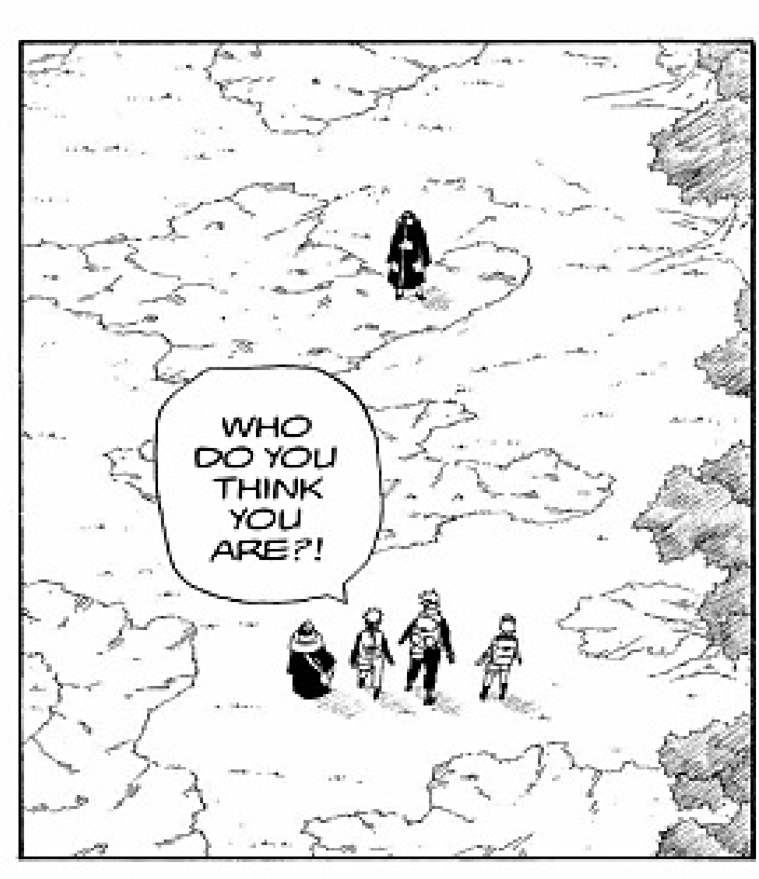


















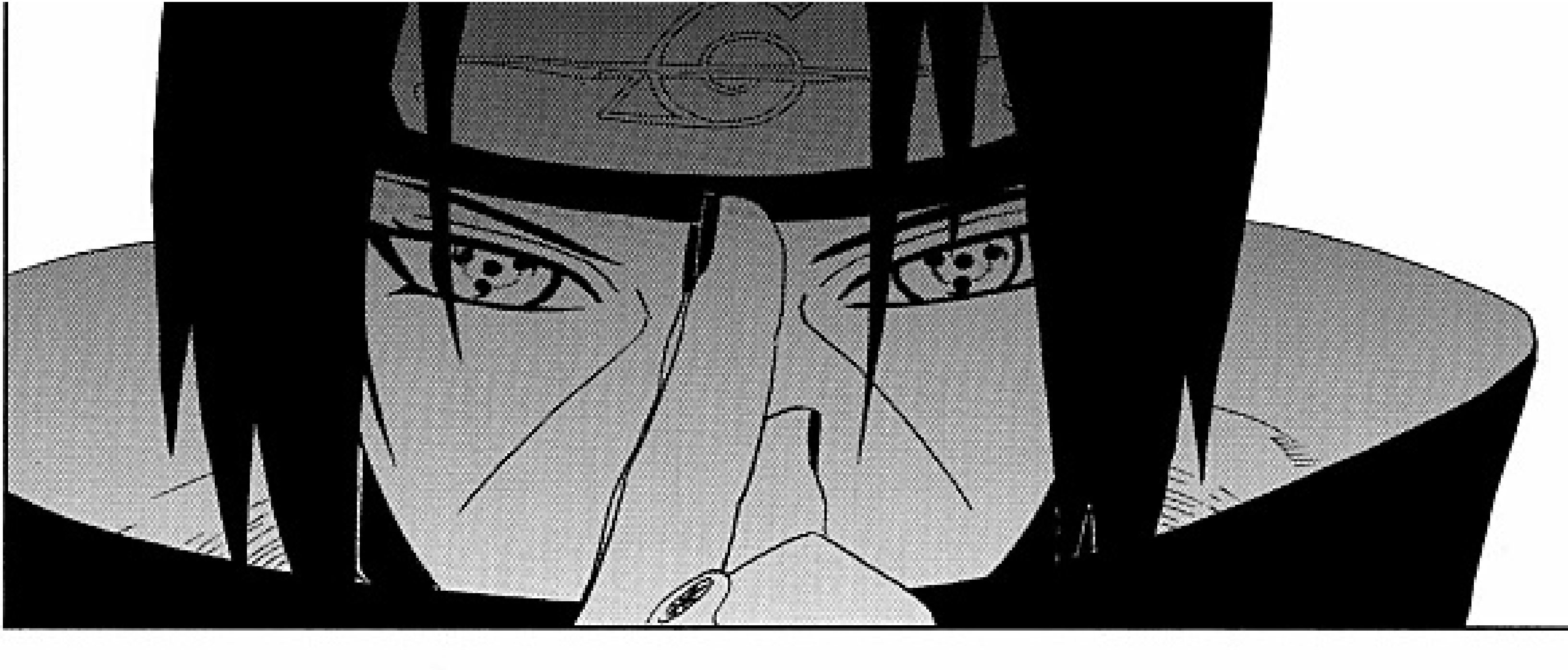
NOBODY LOOK DIRECTLY INTO HIS EYES...

IT'S DANGER-OUS!

?!

?!

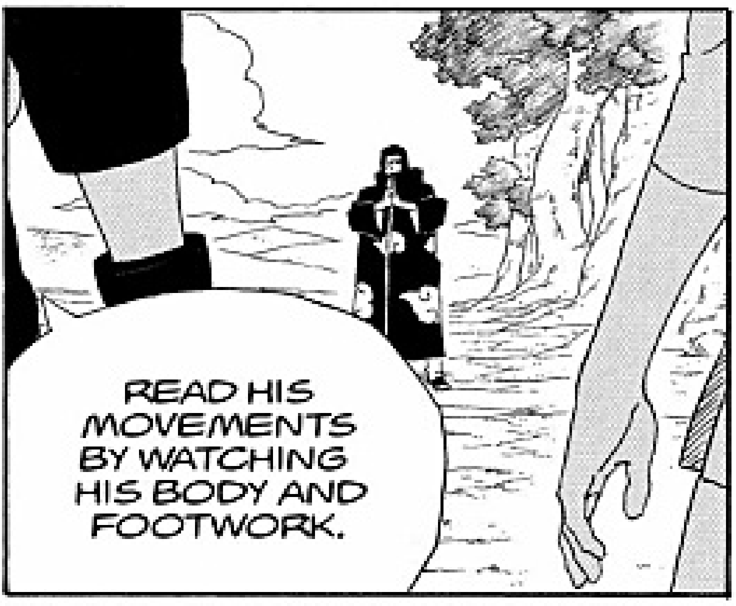
?!

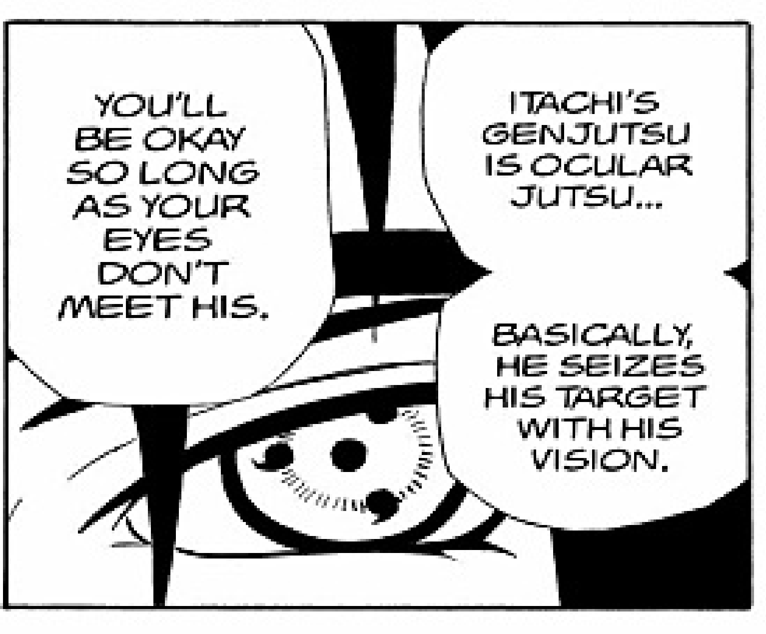



THEN, WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO?!


GUY... HOW DID YOU TAKE ITACHI ON?
...HMM?


...


READ HIS MOVEMENTS BY WATCHING HIS BODY AND FOOTWORK.

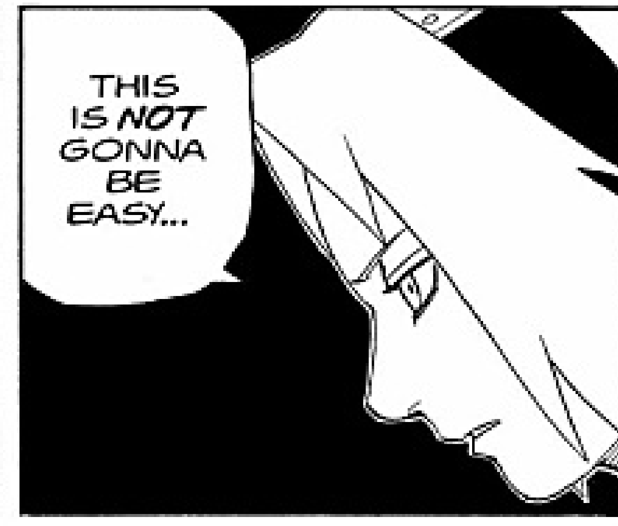

ITACHI'S GENJUTSU IS OCULAR JUTSU...
BASICALLY, HE SEIZES HIS TARGET WITH HIS VISION.
YOU'LL BE OKAY SO LONG AS YOUR EYES DON'T MEET HIS.

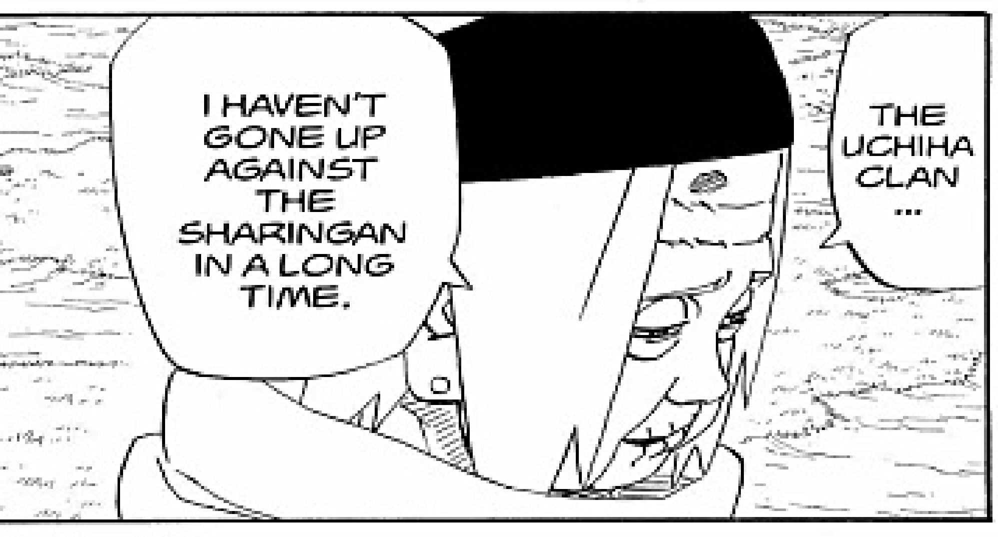

READ
THIS
WAY




SSH


GG...


THIS IS NOT GONNA BE EASY...

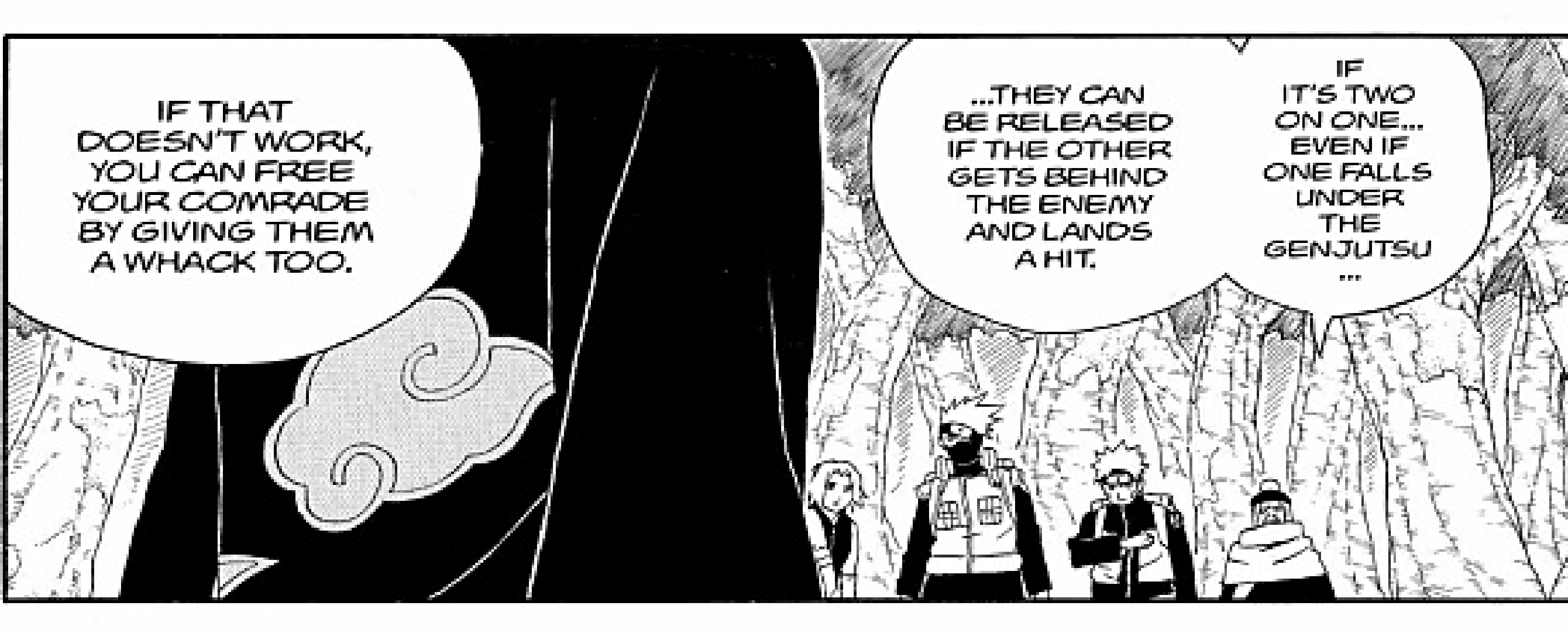

THE UCHIHA CLAN ...
I HAVEN'T GONE UP AGAINST THE SHARINGAN IN A LONG TIME.


BUT YOU NEEDN'T BE AFRAID.
SEVERAL TACTICS CAN HANDLE OCULAR JUTSU...


WELL, WHAT DO WE DO?!


IF IT'S ONE ON ONE, YOU DEFINITELY RUN.
IF IT'S TWO ON ONE, GET HIS BACK.


...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


IF IT'S TWO ON ONE... EVEN IF ONE FALLS UNDER THE GENJUTSU...
...THEY CAN BE RELEASED IF THE OTHER GETS BEHIND THE ENEMY AND LANDS A HIT.
IF THAT DOESN'T WORK, YOU CAN FREE YOUR COMRADE BY GIVING THEM A WHACK TOO.

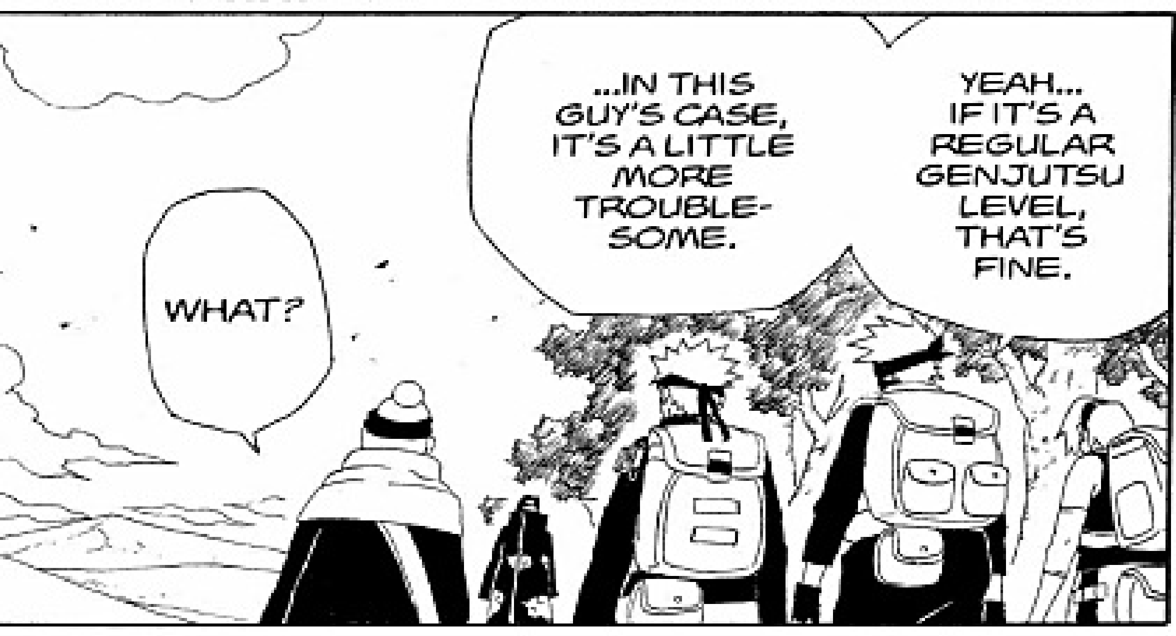

IN OTHER WORDS, WHEN YOU ARE TWO OR MORE, ONE ACTS AS A DECOY...
...THEN THE OTHERS ATTACK CONTINUOUSLY FROM THE SHARINGAN'S BLIND SPOT.


I GET IT...


THERE'S SOME OLD AGE AND WISDOM FOR YOU!







HE USES MANGEKYO SHARINGAN ...

IT'S MORE POWERFUL THAN THE ORIGINAL SHARINGAN.

IF YOU'RE CAUGHT BY HIS OCULAR JUTSU, HE HAS YOU INSTANTLY.

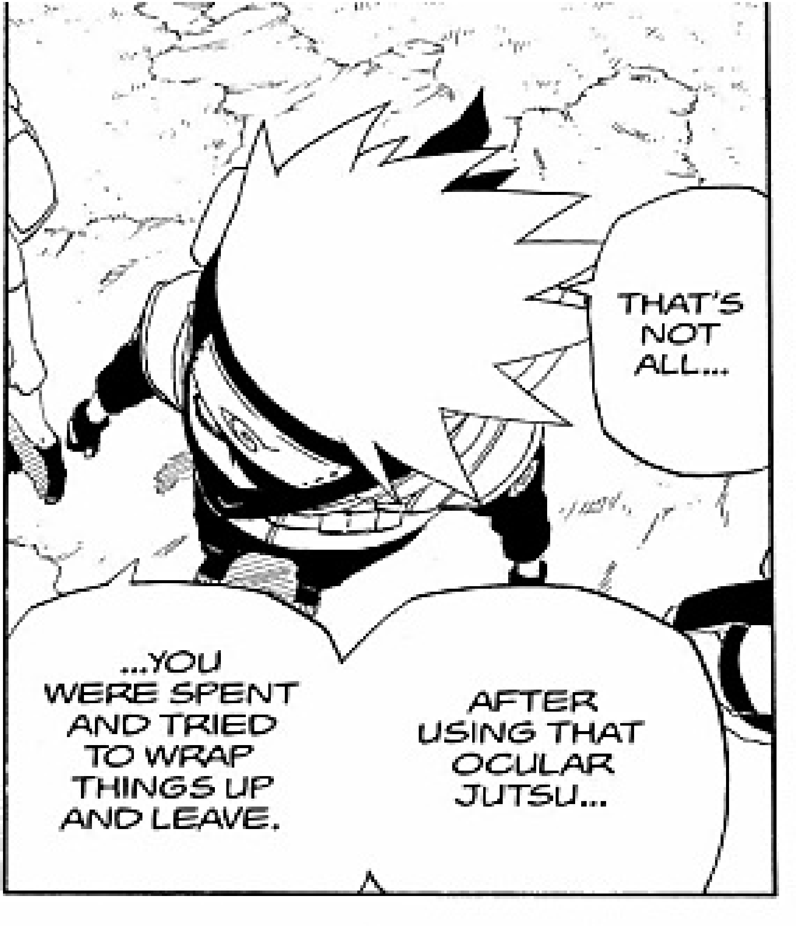
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH WHETHER YOU CAN DEFEAT GENJUTSU OR NOT.







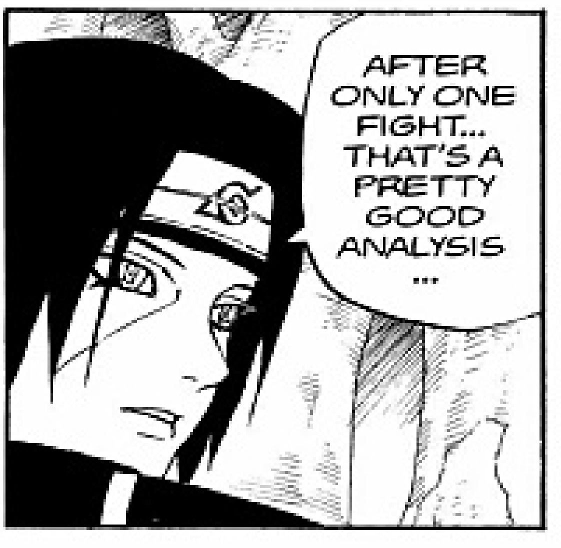

WELL DONE, KAKASHI.
YOU'VE LEARNED FROM EXPERIENCING TSUKUYOMI, THE NIGHTMARE REALM, ONLY ONCE.


THAT'S NOT ALL...
AFTER USING THAT OCULAR JUTSU...
...YOU WERE SPENT AND TRIED TO WRAP THINGS UP AND LEAVE.


MEANWHILE YOU'VE OVERUSED THOSE EYES OF YOURS...
...YOU KNOW THAT'S DANGEROUS...

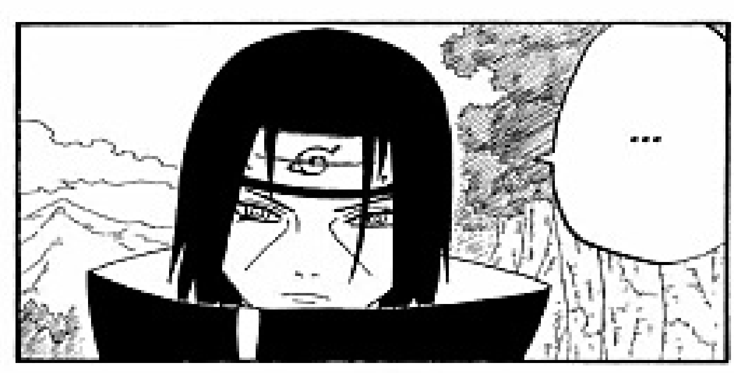

WE DIDN'T COME HERE TO START A WAR...
TEMPTING AS IT IS, THIS IS NOT THE WAY TO DO THIS. LET'S GO.


THAT JUTSU REQUIRES A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF CHAKRA.
AND, IT SEEMS THERE'S QUITE A RISK TO YOUR EYES TOO... ITACHI.


AFTER ONLY ONE FIGHT... THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD ANALYSIS...

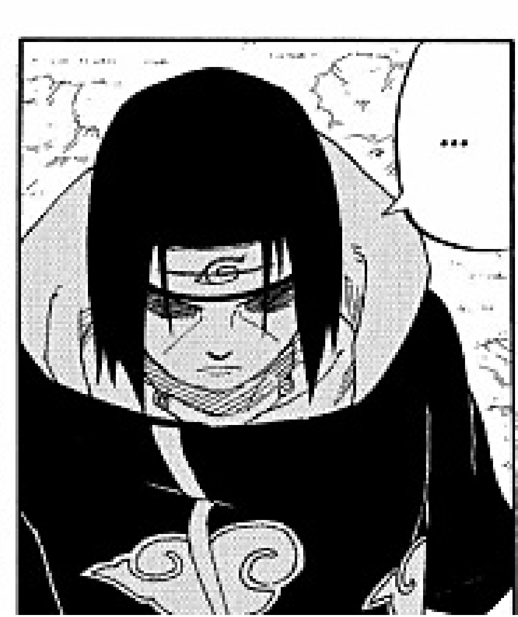

READ THIS WAY

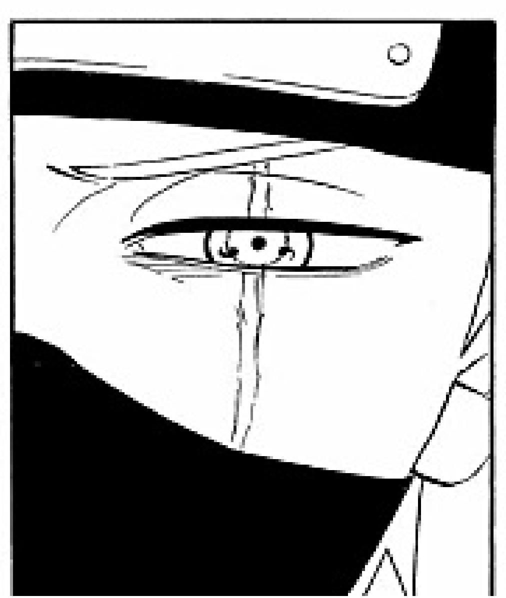

ITACHI!!
SHF

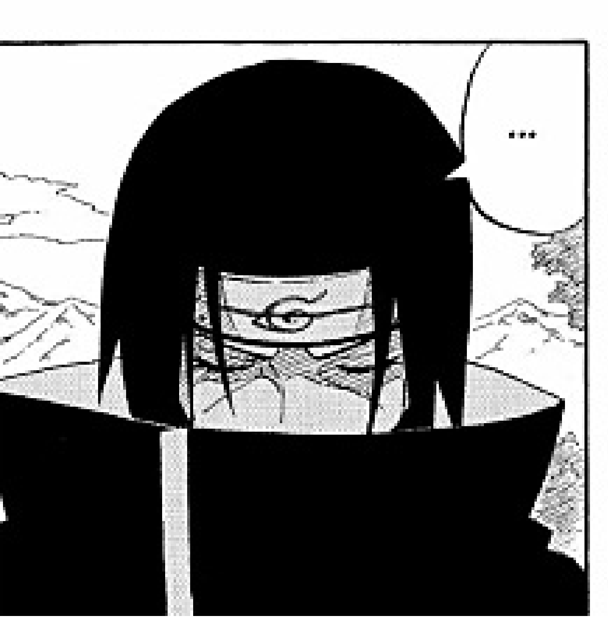

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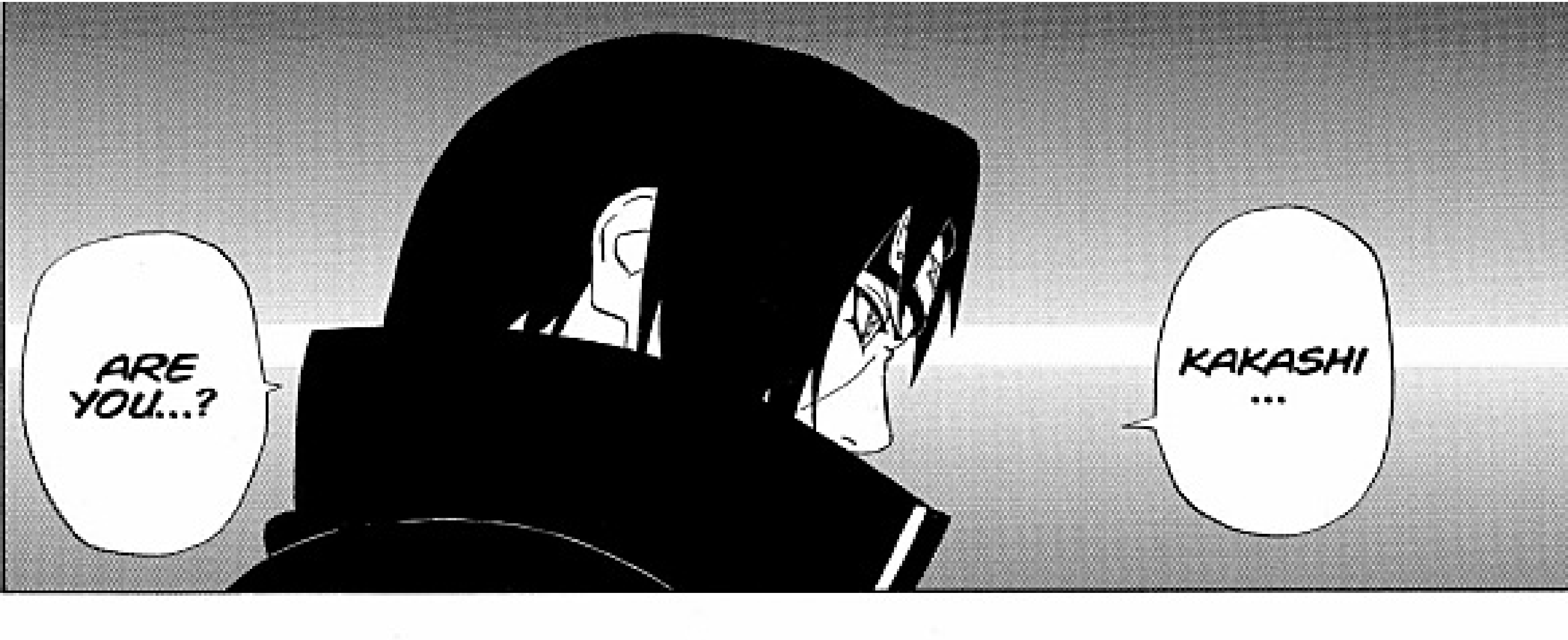

HOW MUCH ...
FWIP
...OF YOUR EYESIGHT HAVE YOU LOST?




...

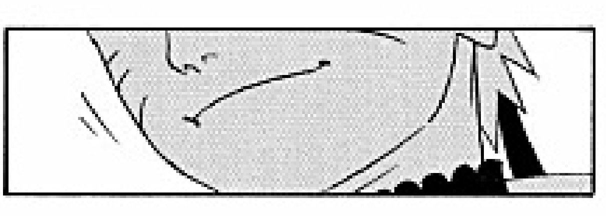



...


KAKASHI
...
ARE YOU...?


...


ANYWAY! I DROPPED MY GUARD LAST TIME.
BUT I LEARN QUICKLY.
I DON'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKES TWICE.
!
!



AND IF YOU THINK *I'M* THE SAME AS BEFORE...
...YOU'RE MAKIN' A BIG MISTAKE!

READ THIS WAY

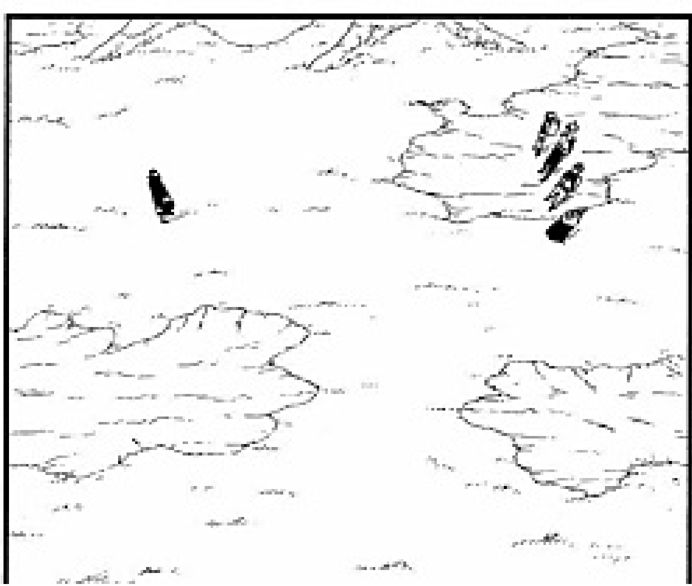


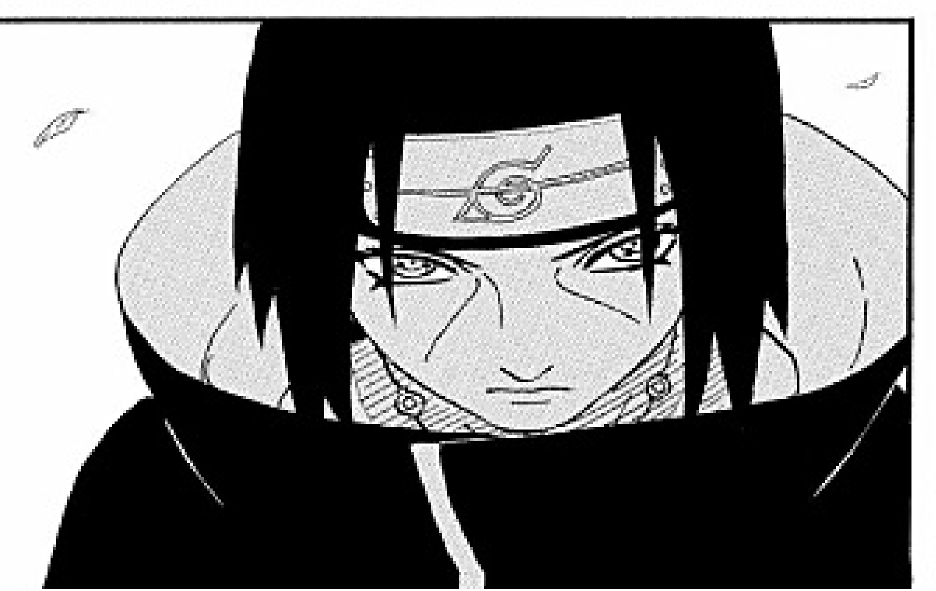













THAK
TUG
THAK
SPAK

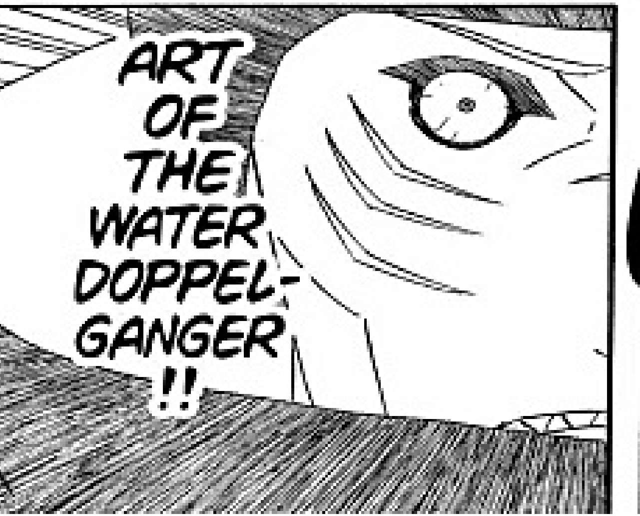

READ THIS WAY

NOW!!

BWAF
!


TSK...


CLAP

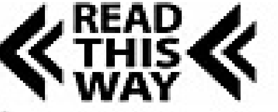

ART OF THE WATER DOPPEL-GANGER!!


ONNNNNNG

POW

SPLOOSH


ART OF THE WATER PRISON!
FWIP
FWIP
FWIP
NO!
!
WHAT ?!
SHA
A
!!
VNN
N
ZING



SPLASH

AAH...

VOOOM

UGH...

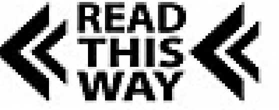
GAK...

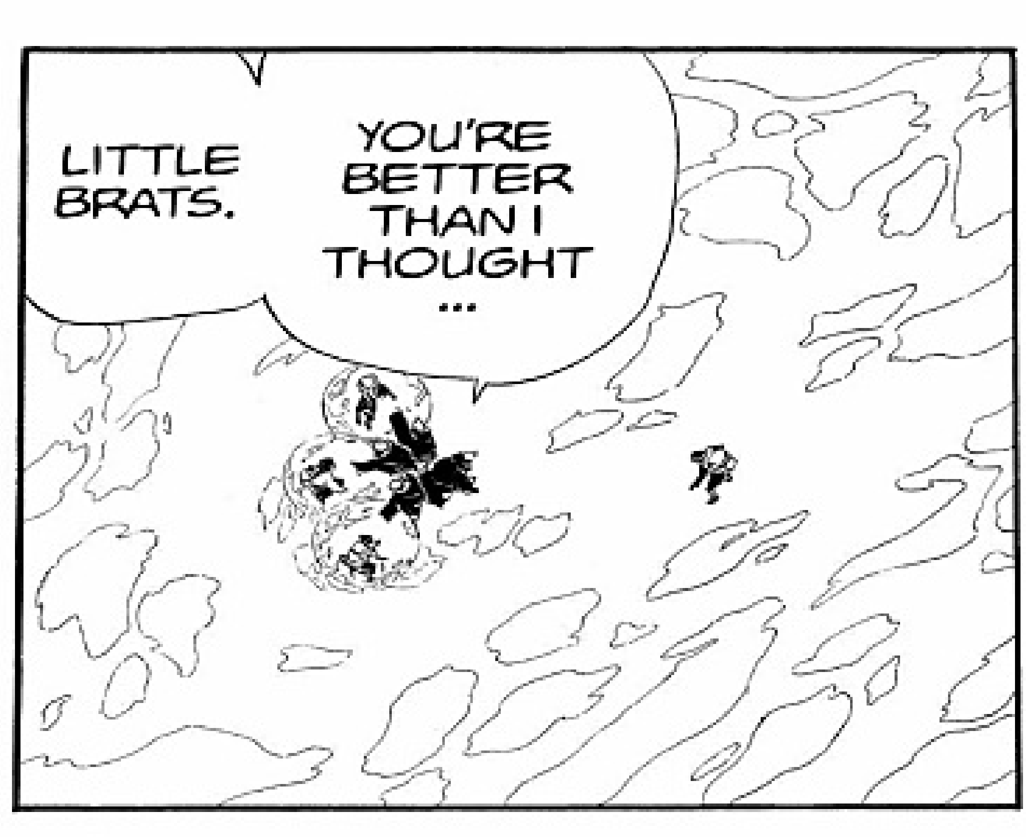

I CAN'T MOVE...


ARGH!


... CAN'T BREATHE ...
GLUB GLUB


LEE! NEJI! TENTEN!







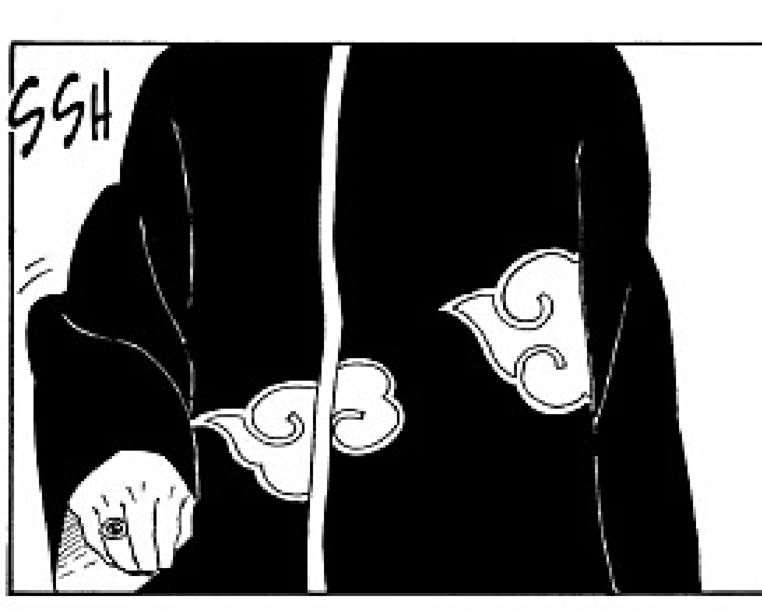
...NOW WE CAN DO THIS ONE ON ONE.

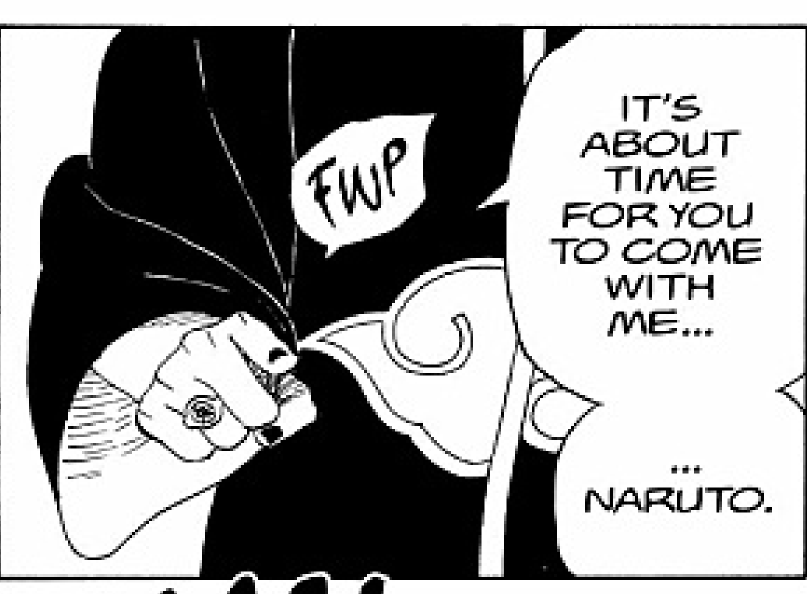

NARUTO


Number 258:
Guy vs. Kisame!!


THIS GIANT SWORD, SAMEHADA ...
ONLY I AM ALLOWED TO WIELD IT.
FWAAAAAA
SPLASH
SPLOOSH
...


SHF
SHWOOSH
SHWOOSH
SHAK
SPLASHH
ALL RIGHT!!
THE MOMENT HAS COME!


SSH


FWP
IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR YOU TO COME WITH ME...
... NARUTO.


...


ZOOM
I'LL GO! YOU STAY BACK!



READ THIS WAY
!
WAMMM
A SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGER!
ZOOM
VOOM


THOOM
RASEN-GAN! SPIRAL CHAKRA SPHERE !!
!!
...!
THIS WAS A SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGER TOO...!
BOOF


READ THIS WAY


?!!
WHAT ?!


UGH...
THUMP


!
SA... SAKURA ...


...HUH ...?
SKF
SKF


SHF
SHF




...!


SPLOOSH
FWAAAA
SKEE
SUCH STRENGTH ...
GGH
YAAAAGH!!


GAK!
MASTER GUY!!
GLUB GLUB
FWIPFWIP
WATER STYLE ...
I HAVEN'T EVEN GOTTEN STARTED YET!
FWAAAA...

SHOOM

FIVE HUNGRY SHARKS!!

FOOM

ONNNNNGG

...









THE EIGHT INNER GATES! THE SIXTH GATE! KEIMON ...!!
...RELEASE!!!
GRRR
WHAAT ?!
!!
WHOOSH

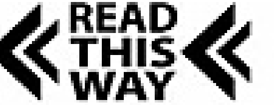
FOOM

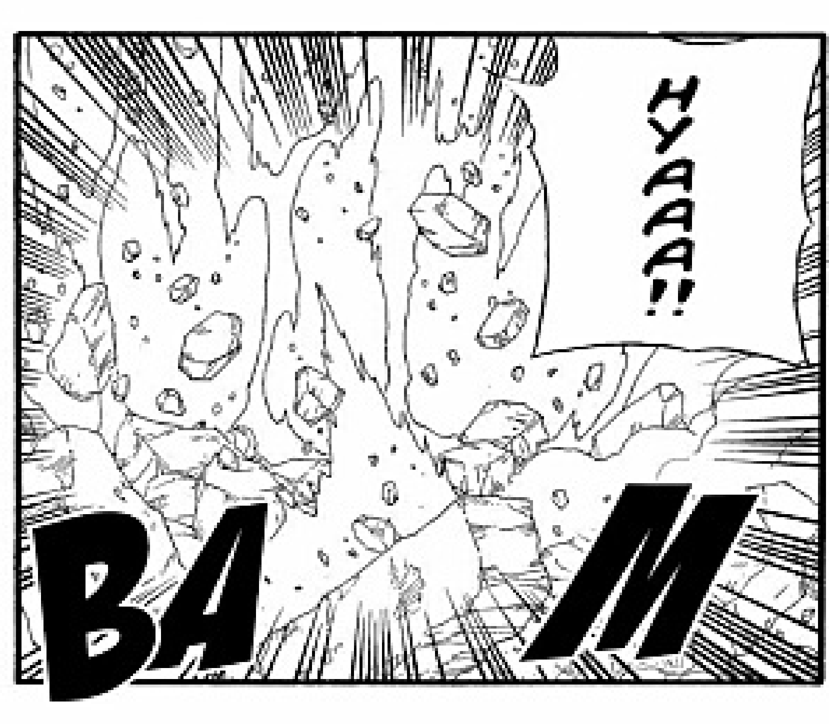
SPLASH

FLASH

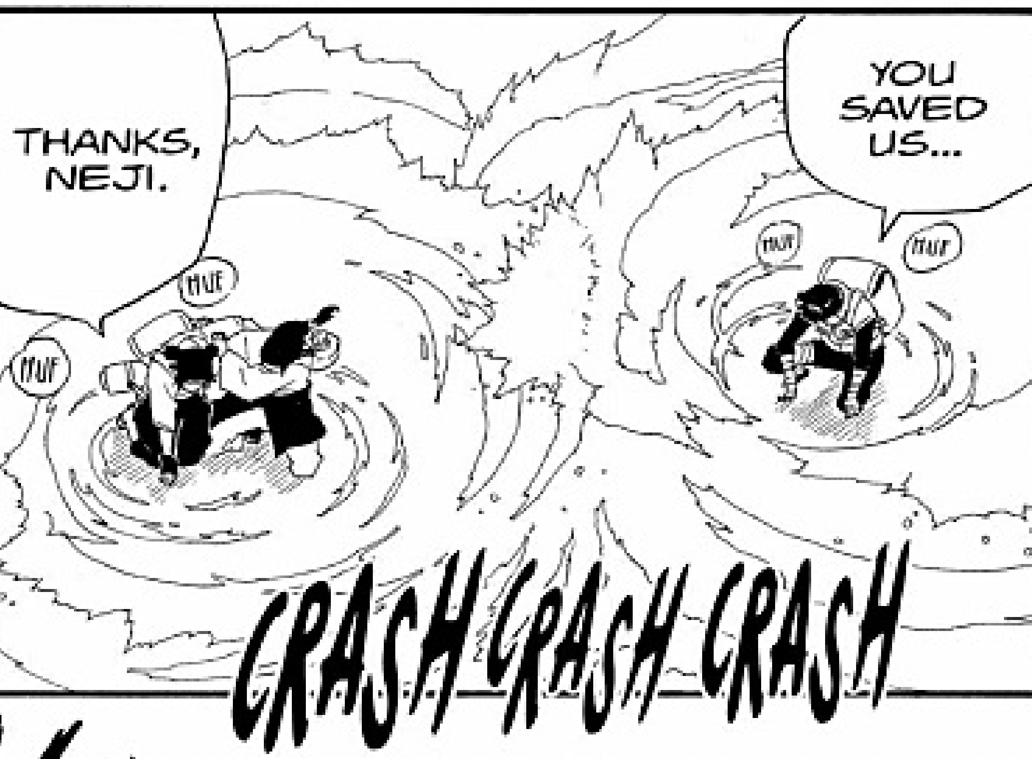


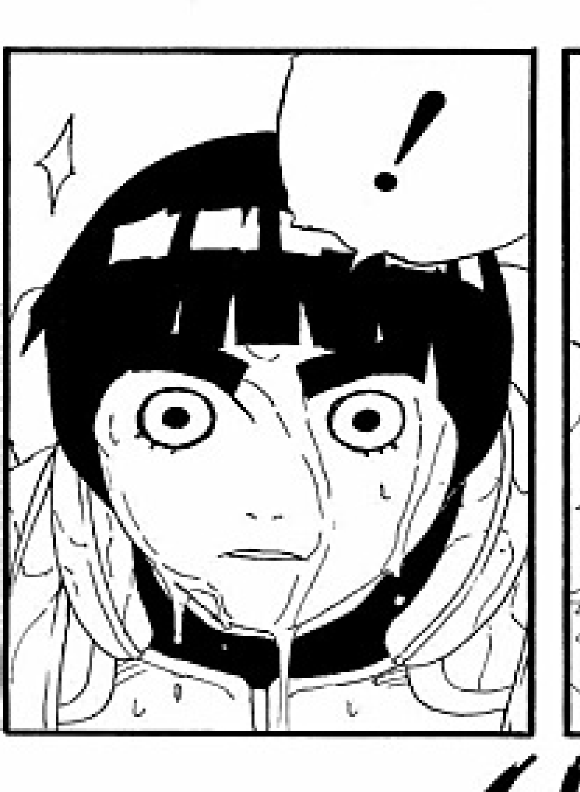


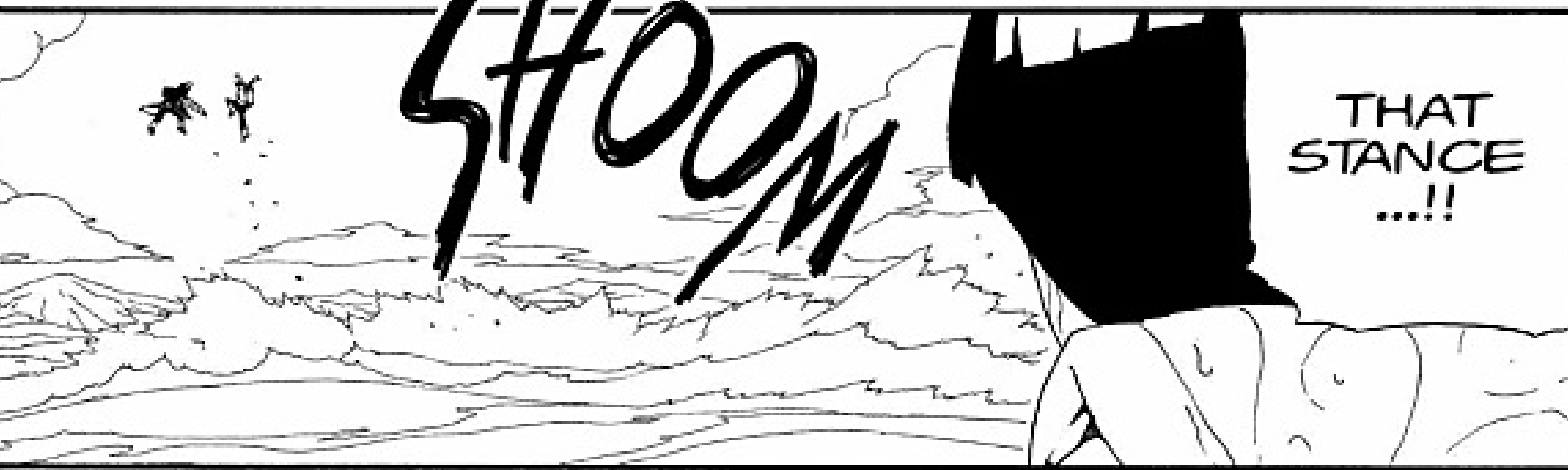

READ
THIS
WAY


HYAAA!!
BAM


FWOO
!!


YOU SAVED US...
THANKS, NEJI.
CRASH CRASH CRASH


!


SHOOM
THAT STANCE ...!!





OSH
POW
HE'S SO FAST...
SWISH
GAME OVER!
THAT'S ...
YUP ...


ASA-
KU-
JAKU
!!
THMTHMTHM


THM THM THM


KA BOOM


HUF
HUF
HUF
THUDD
SSSSSH
TH... THIS GUY IS...

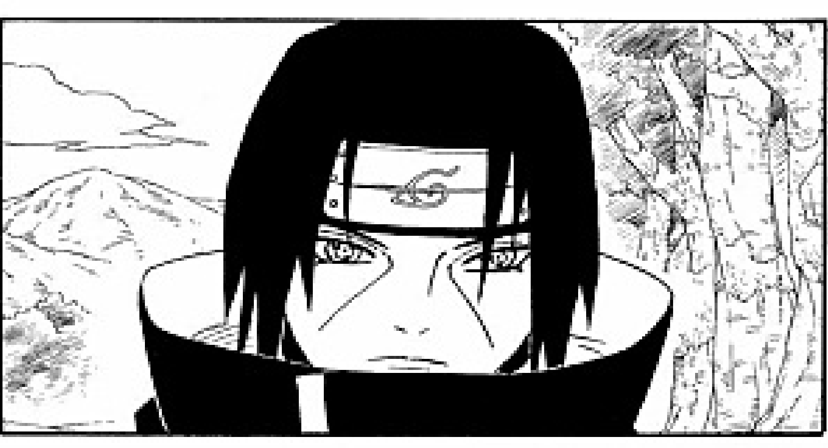

NARUTO

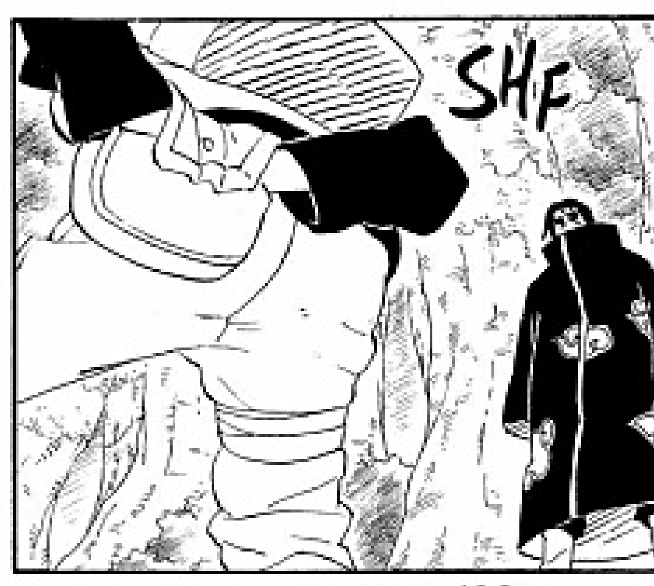

Number 259:
The Power of Itachi...!!
zzz


SKF
!


SHU


...




SH·F

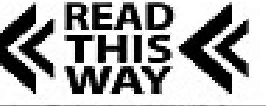

SHWIP
SHWIP

READ THIS WAY



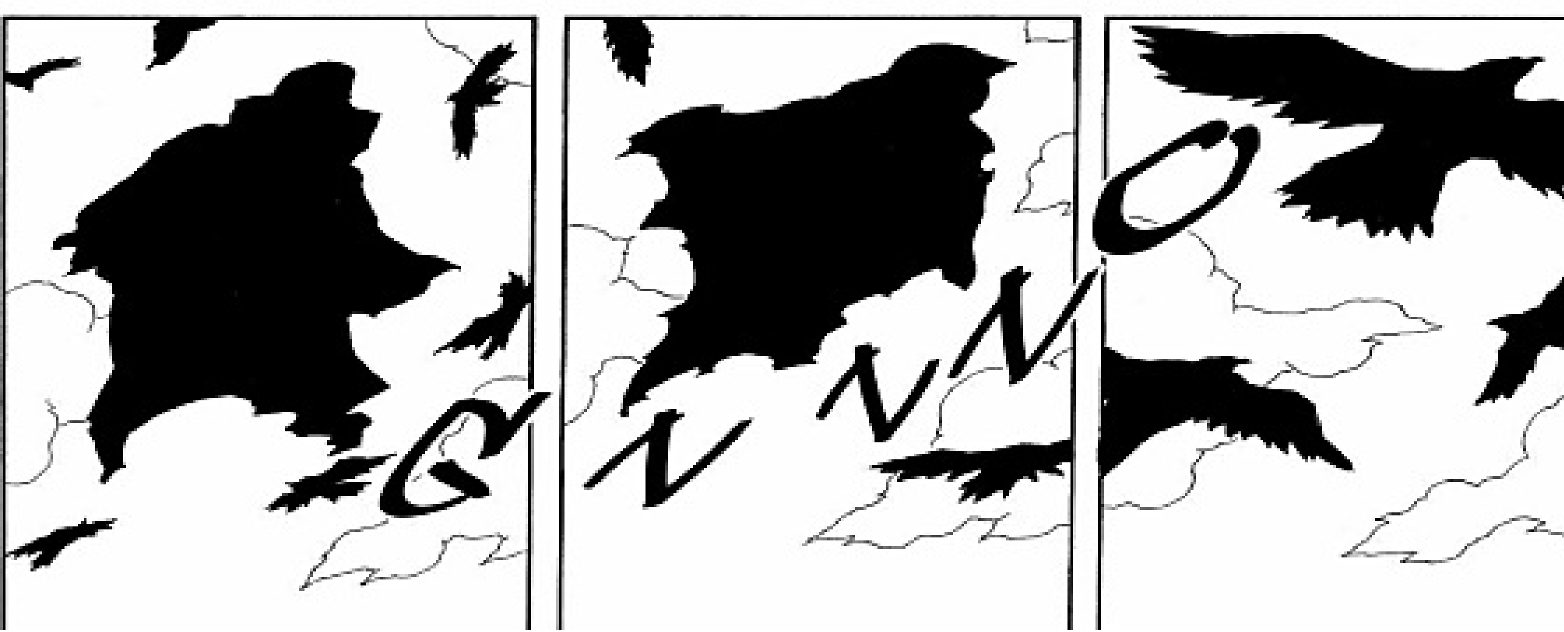
THUNK
SHUK
SHWIP
THUNK

SHWUF



FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP

!



WHY?

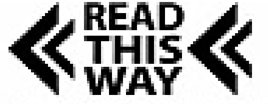
I DIDN'T EVEN LOOK AT HIS EYES...!



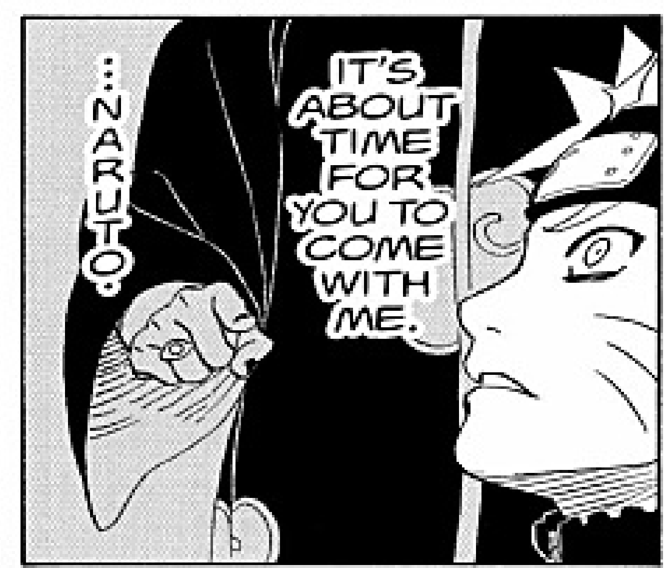


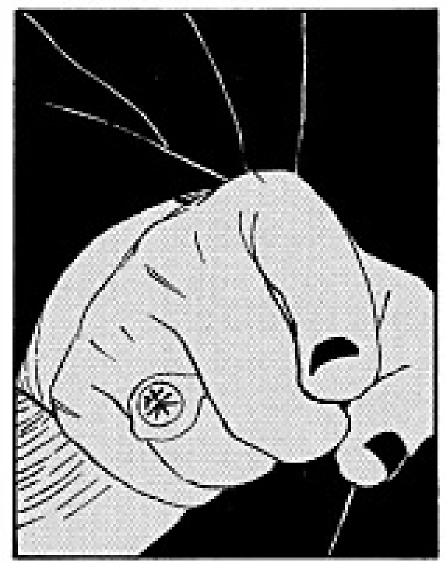





READ THIS WAY


...!


IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR YOU TO COME WITH ME.
...NARUTO.




UGH...
SO THAT'S IT...




DON'T WORRY...
I WON'T USE MANGEKYO SHARINGAN...
OR, TO BE MORE PRECISE, I CAN'T USE IT RIGHT NOW...


?!


FWUP


... NEVER MIND...
IT'S TIME I PUT YOU TO SLEEP.

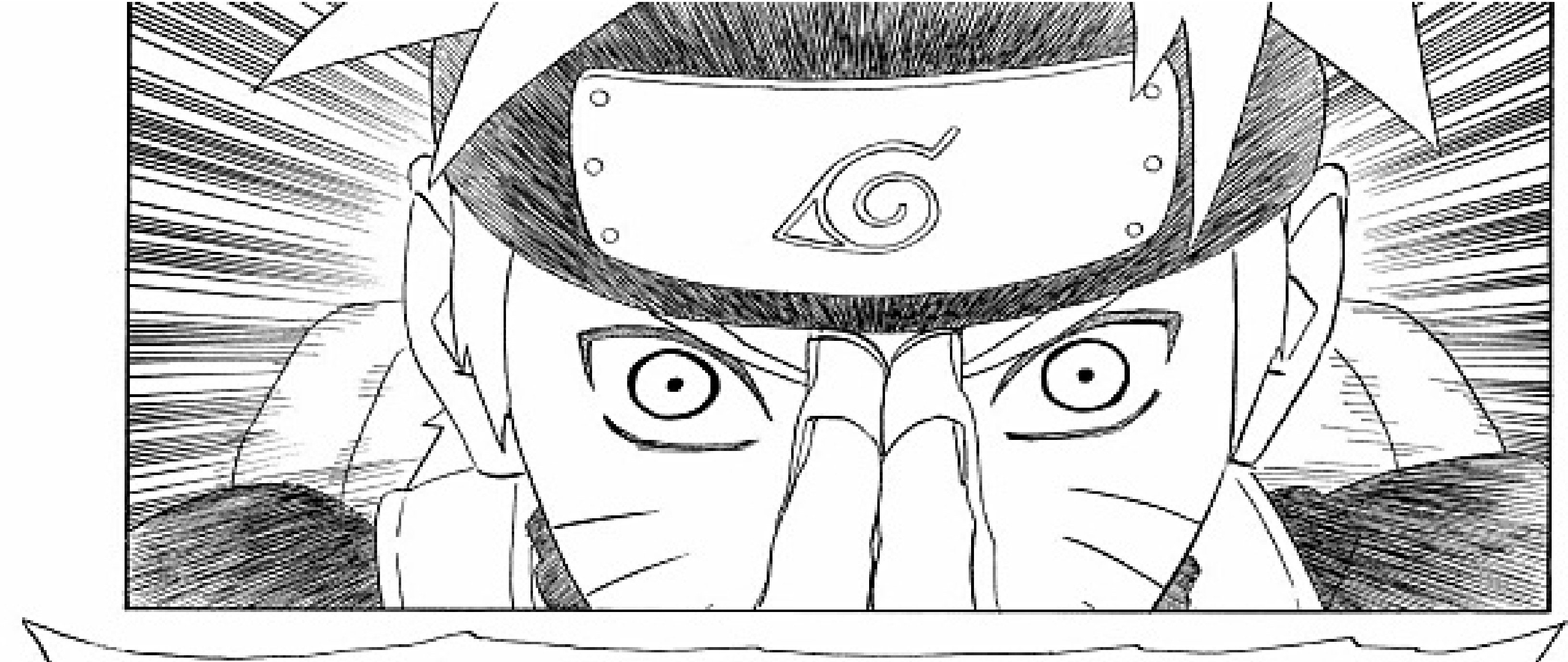

SHF


LISTEN, NARUTO.
THERE'S A TRICK TO BREAKING GENJUTSU.


C'MON, PERVY SAGE!
TEACH ME HOW TO *DO* GENJUTSU, NOT HOW TO DEAL WITH IT.

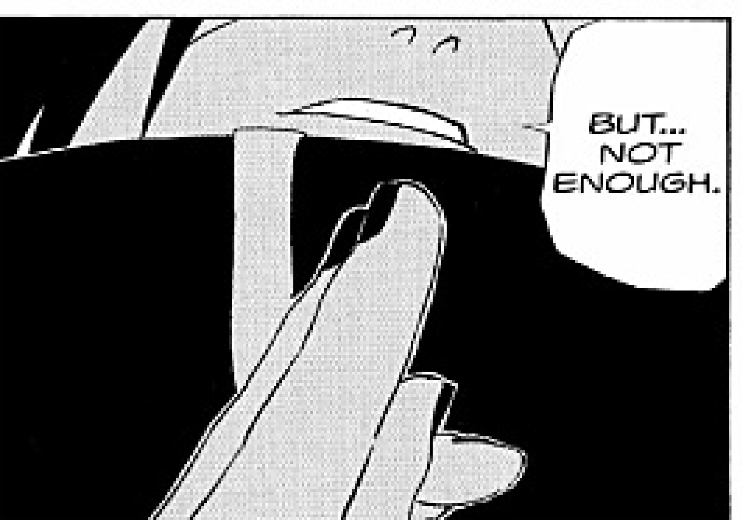

READ THIS WAY
SIGH...
?
NARUTO ...
GENJUTSU WORKS ON YOUR OPPONENT'S FIVE SENSES.
YOU CONTROL THE CHAKRA FLOWING THROUGH THEIR CRANIAL NERVES.
IT'S A HIGHLY ADVANCED, INTELLECTUAL NINJA TECHNIQUE.
UGH...
I DON'T REALLY GET IT...
NOBODY'S ASKING YOU TO MASTER GENJUTSU.
FIRST OF ALL, YOU'RE NOT REALLY CUT OUT FOR GENJUTSU...
I'M NOT, HUNH?
FINE. THEN FORGET GENJUTSU!
LET'S GET TO THE NEXT EXERCISE!
?
BUT YOU CAN'T SKIP IT.

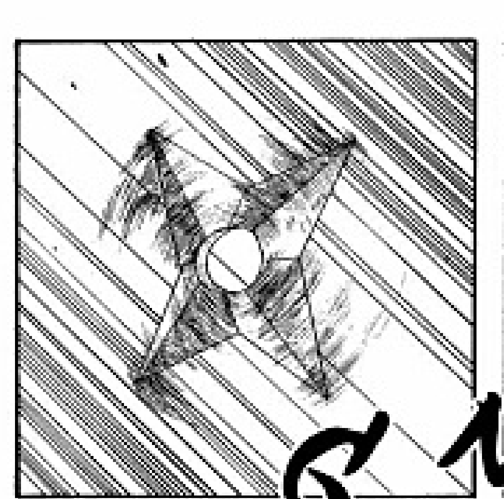

THERE ARE ENEMIES THAT USE GENJUTSU...
SO YOU HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO DEAL WITH IT!
BORING...
LISTEN... IF YOU'RE CAUGHT BY GENJUTSU ...
...TRY TO STOP YOUR CHAKRA FLOW AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
WHILE YOU'RE CAUGHT, YOUR CHAKRA IS...
...UNDER YOUR OPPO-NENT'S CONTROL.
IF YOU CAN BREAK THAT CONTROL AND DISTURB THE CHAKRA FLOW...
...YOU CAN BREAK THE GENJUTSU.
WHAT IF I STILL CAN'T BREAK IT?
SOMEONE ELSE HAS TO PHYSICALLY TOUCH YOU...
...AND SEND CHAKRA INTO YOU TO DISRUPT THE CHAKRA FLOW...

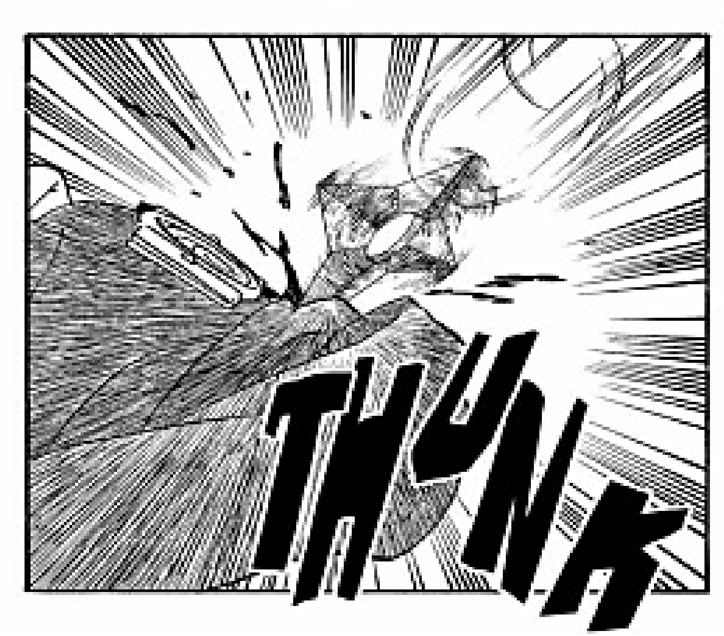



HAAAAAAH!!
THOOOM


...!
HE'S IMPROVED...


BUT... NOT ENOUGH.

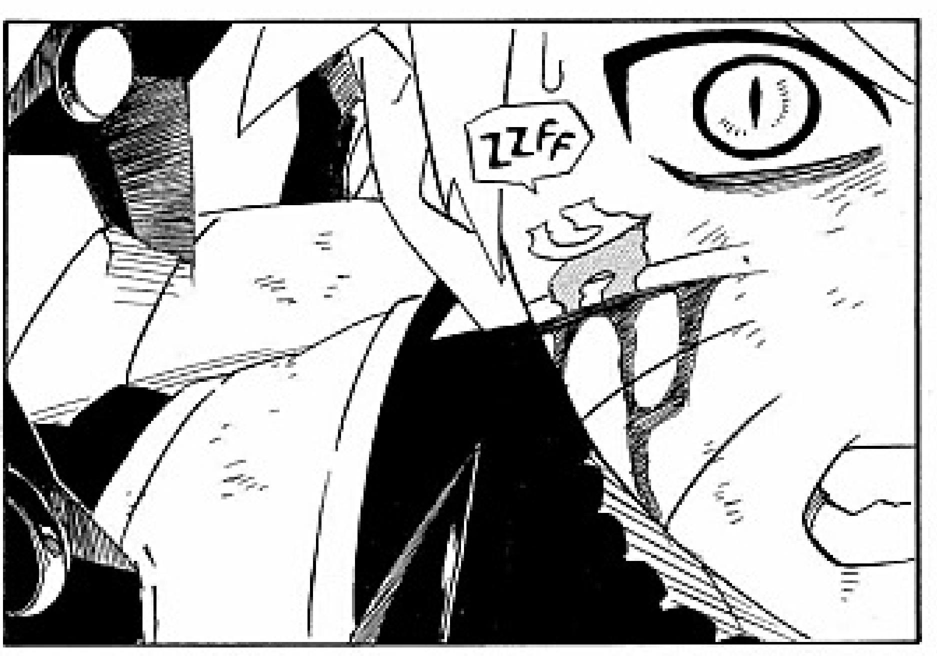




THUNK

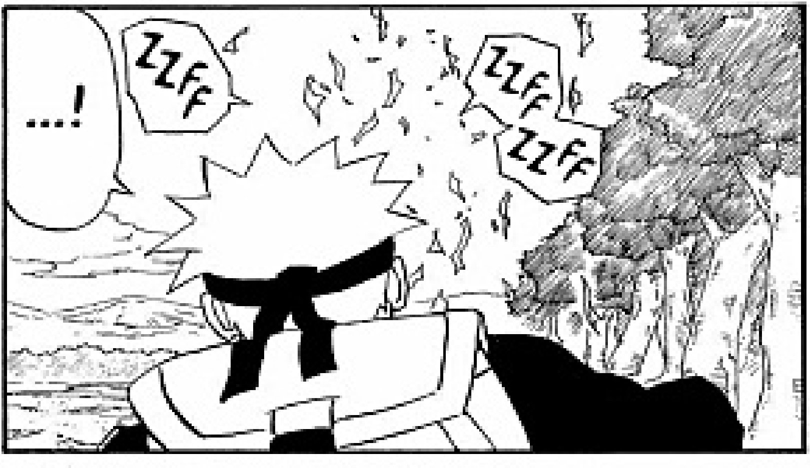
SPAKK
!!

THUNKUKUKUK

UGH!!









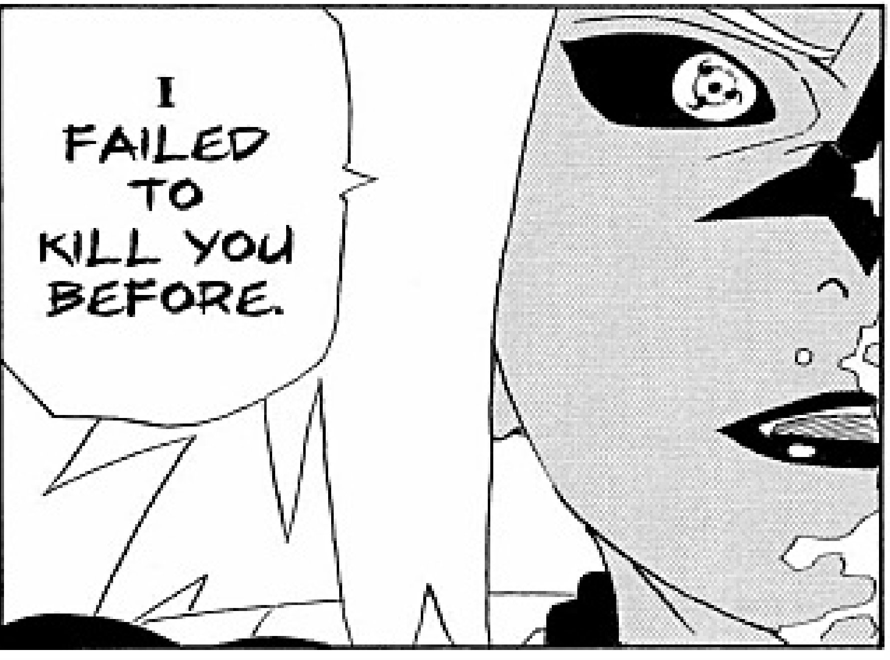

WHAAAA!!

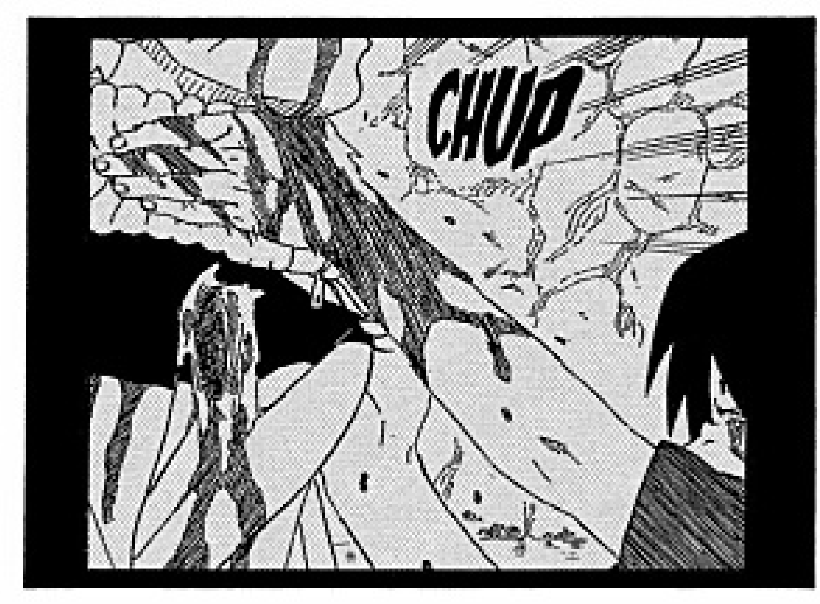

READ
THIS
WAY


ACK !!
CLOMP


HUMMM


CLOMP


I FAILED TO KILL YOU BEFORE.


CHUP


!
ZZZIP
SHUU

WHY... DIDN'T YOU STOP SASUKE ...?
I BELIEVED YOU...
SH
SUU

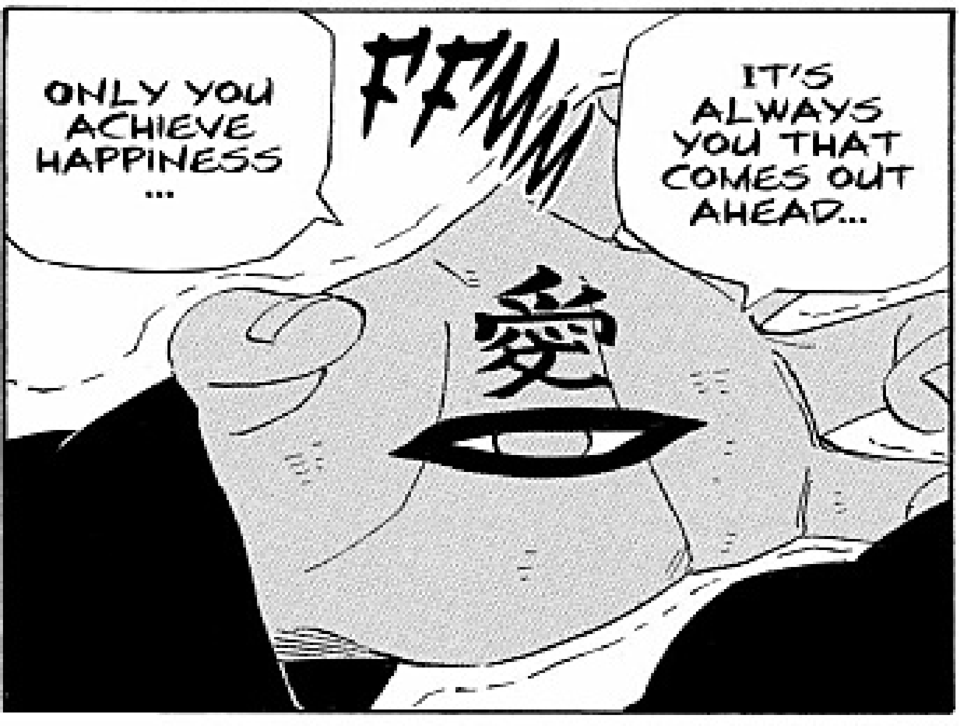


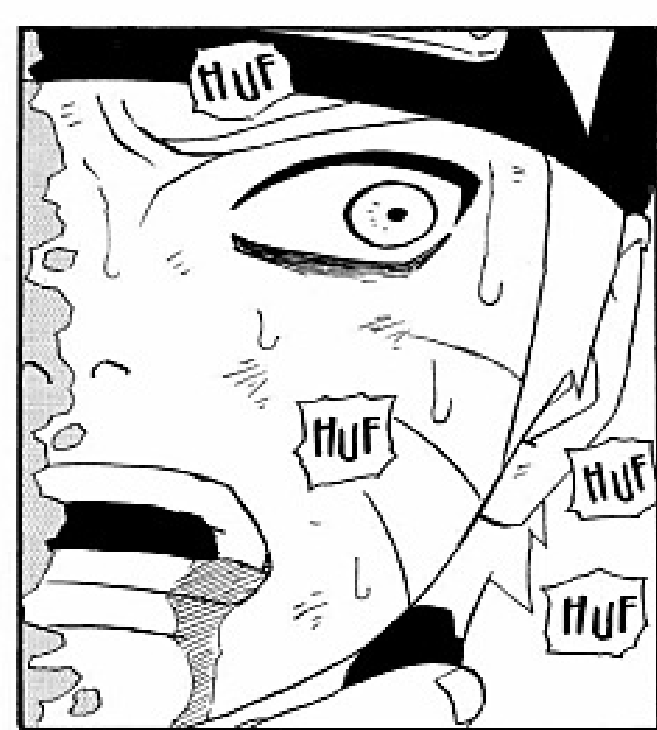






I EXPECTED A LOT FROM YOU...
WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT.
YOU COULDN'T PROTECT YOUR COMRADES.



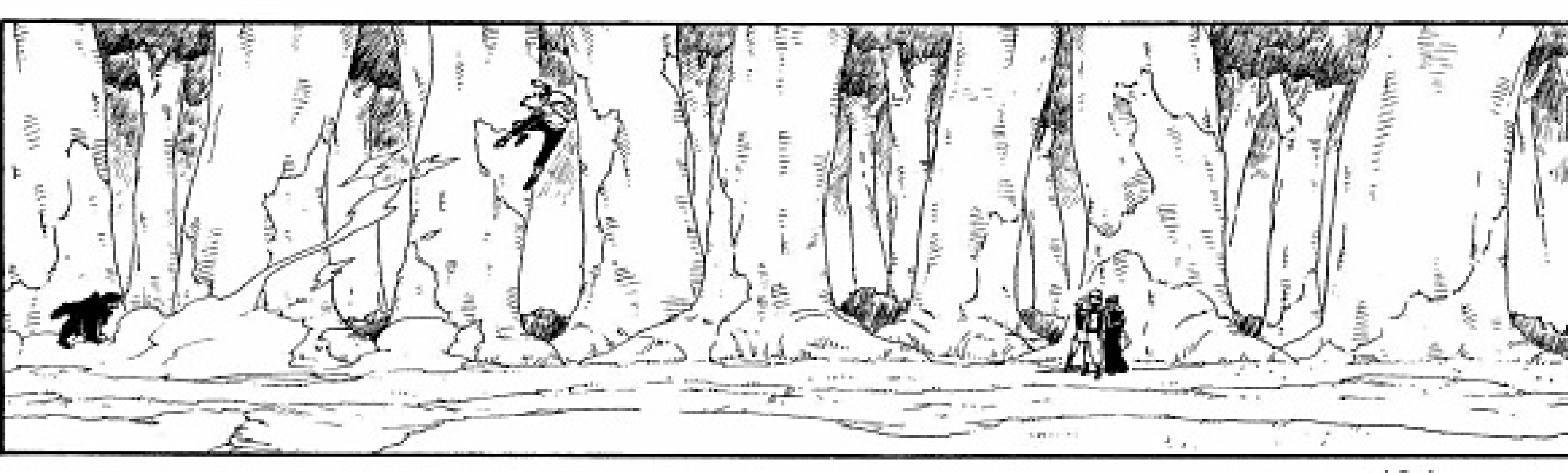


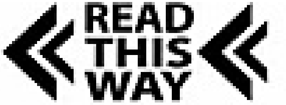






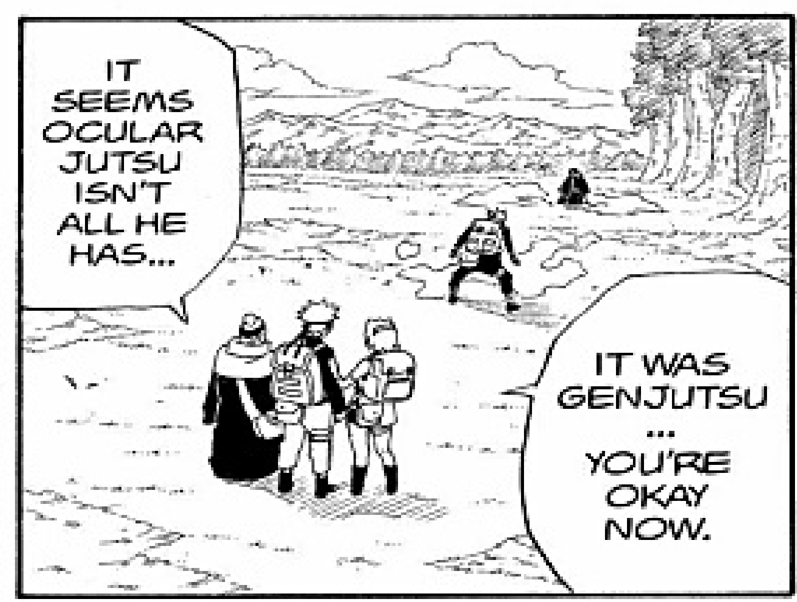
...




READ
THIS
WAY


YOU OK, NARUTO ?!
SKID


...I...


IT WAS GENJUTSU ... YOU'RE OKAY NOW.
IT SEEMS OCULAR JUTSU ISN'T ALL HE HAS...


...



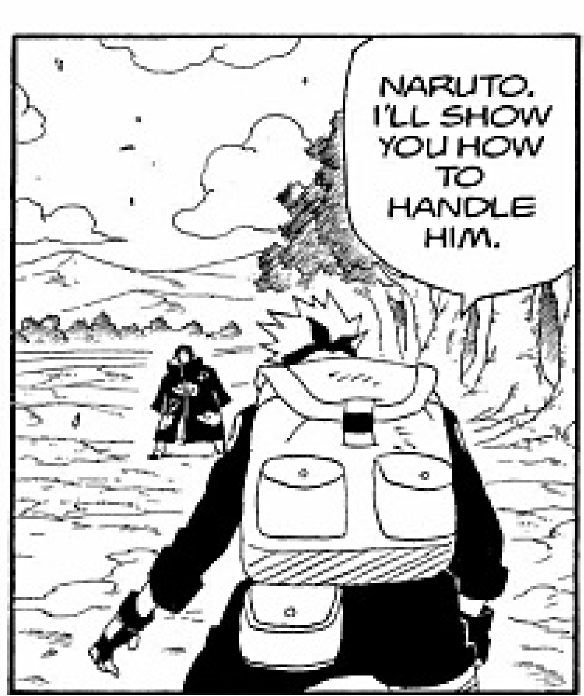

IT'S TIME.
GET READY, NARUTO.


NARUTO

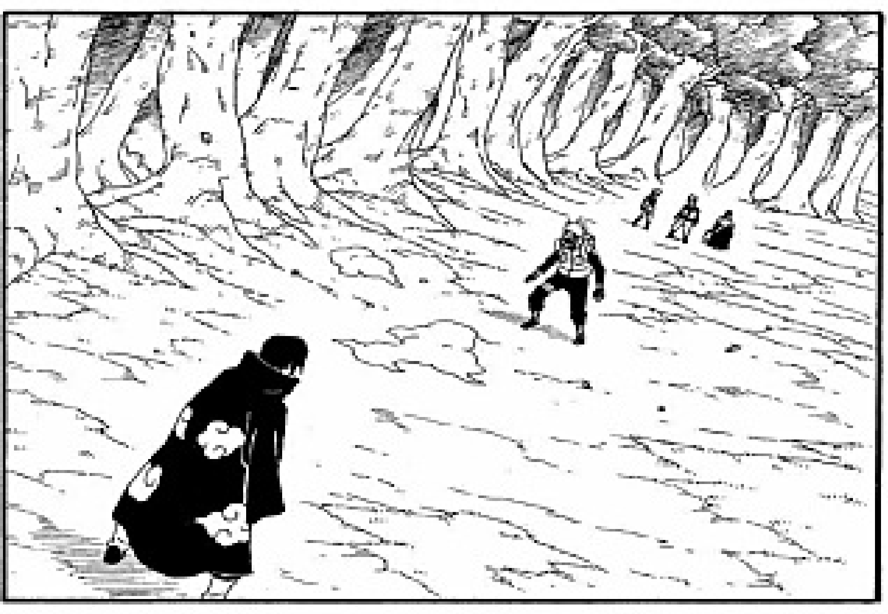

Number 260:
Kakashi vs. Itachi!!


HEY! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!
SMAK


!


NARUTO. I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO HANDLE HIM.


...




SHF



!
FWIP FWIP
FIRE STYLE ...
FSSH
FIRE-BALL TECH-NIQUE !!
KA BOOM

SWISH
SWISH
RUMBLE
SWISH

SKIDDD

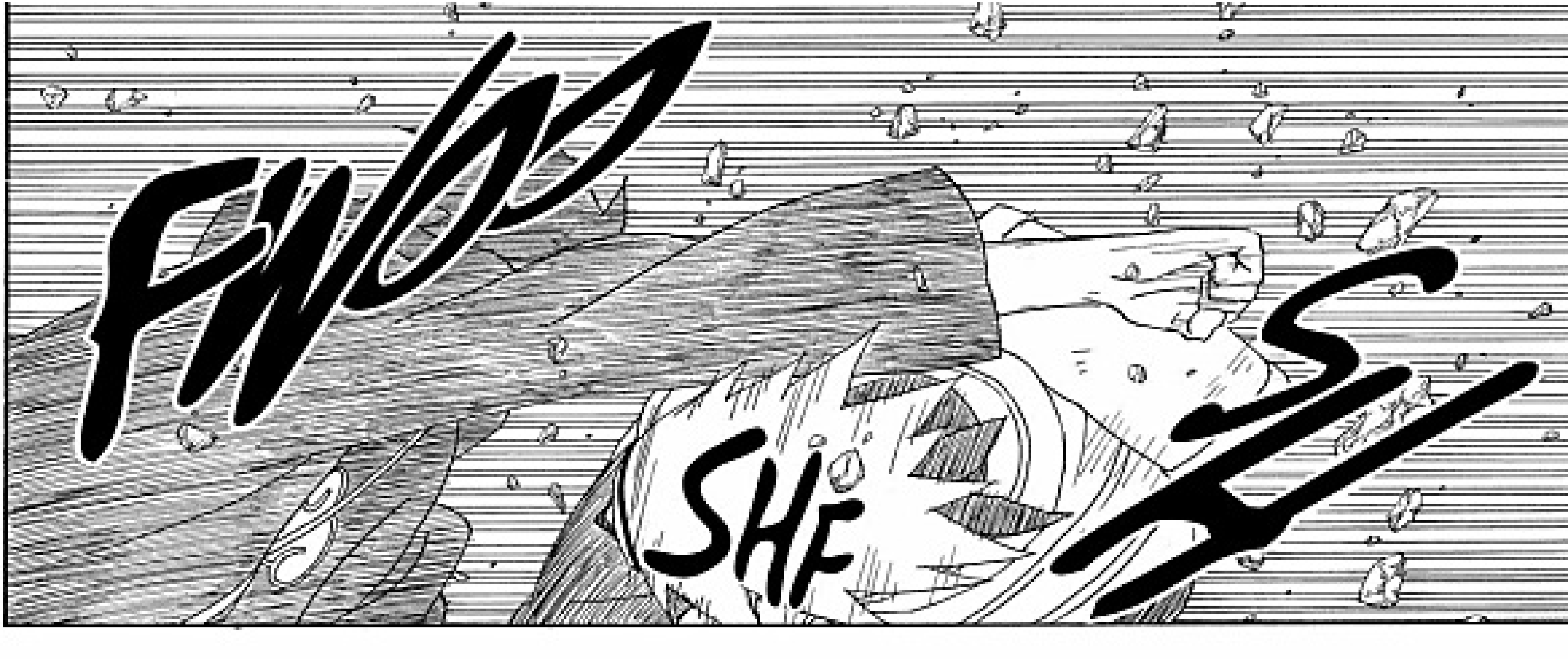
RRR
FLAPP
FLAPP







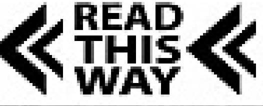

READ THIS WAY
SHF
CLOMP
FWOOSH
!


FWOOSH
SHF


...


FIRE-BALL TECHNIQUE ...
BUT... SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT ...

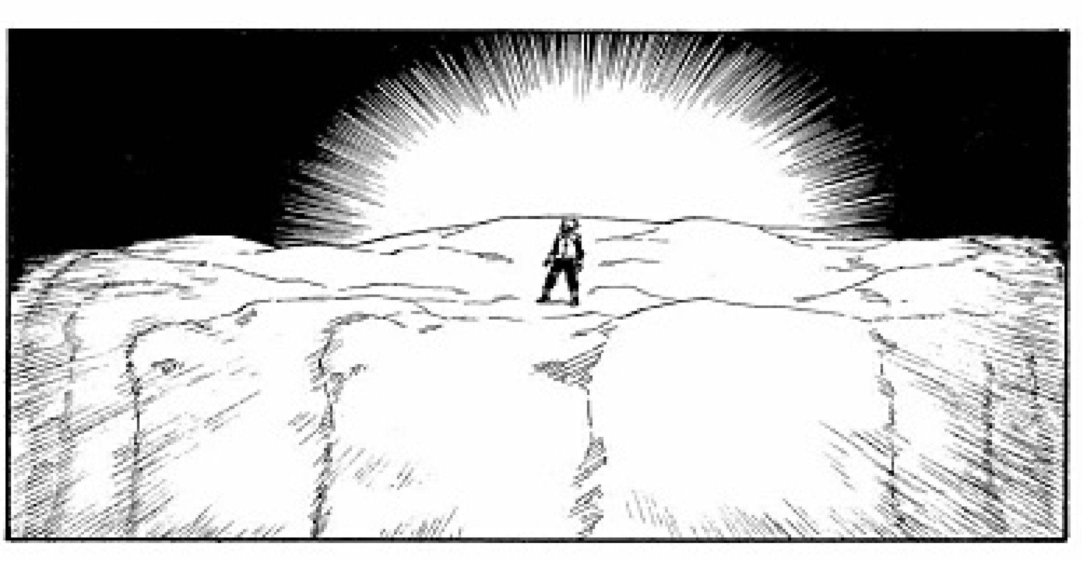

!
CLOMP


READ
THIS
WAY

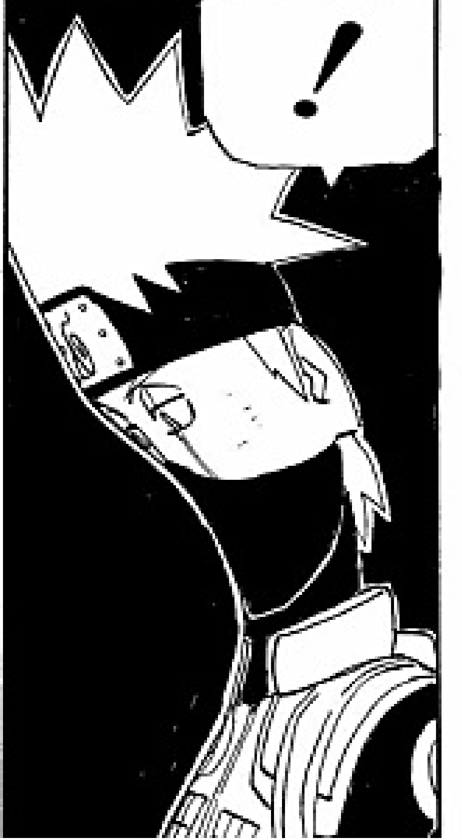




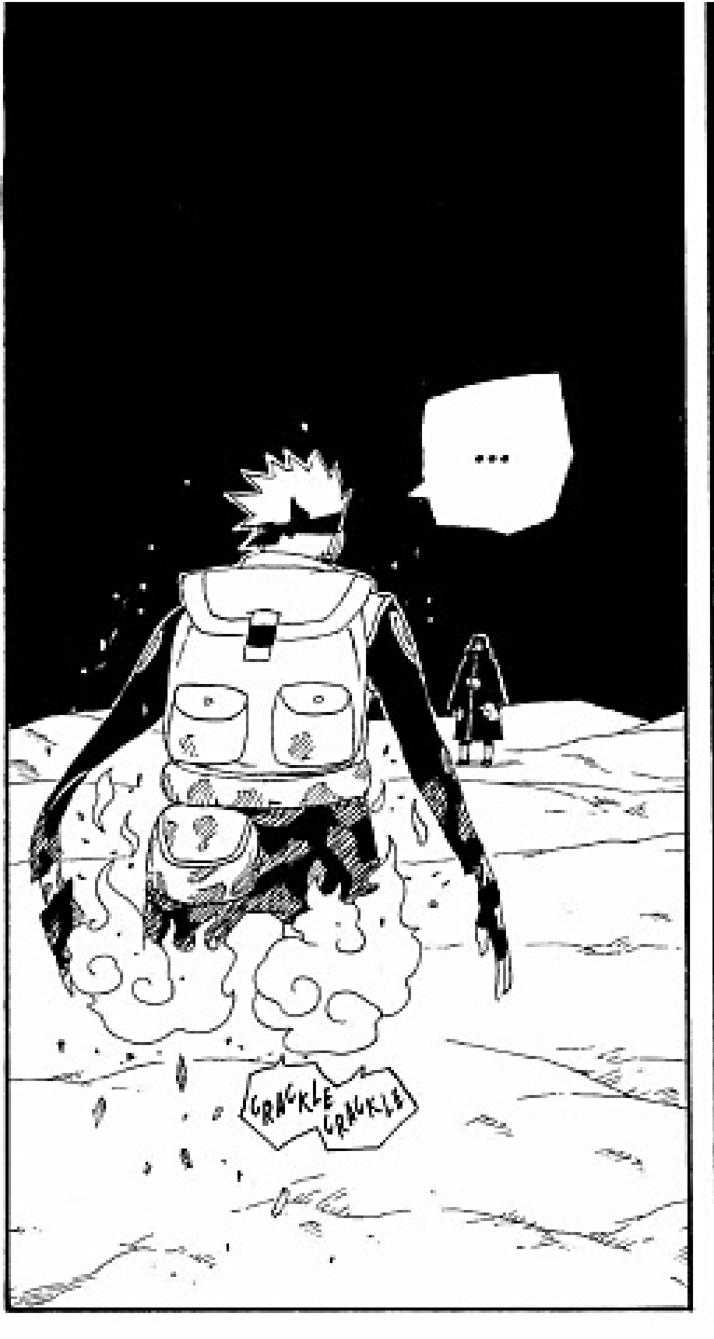

...




!!
FLAP
FLAP

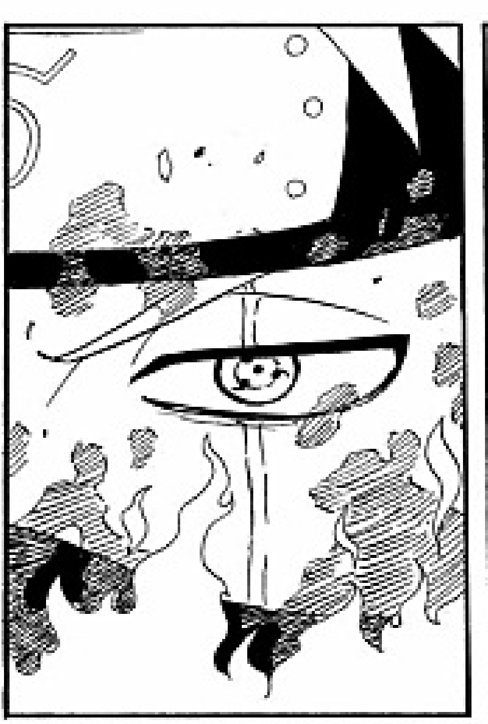

!



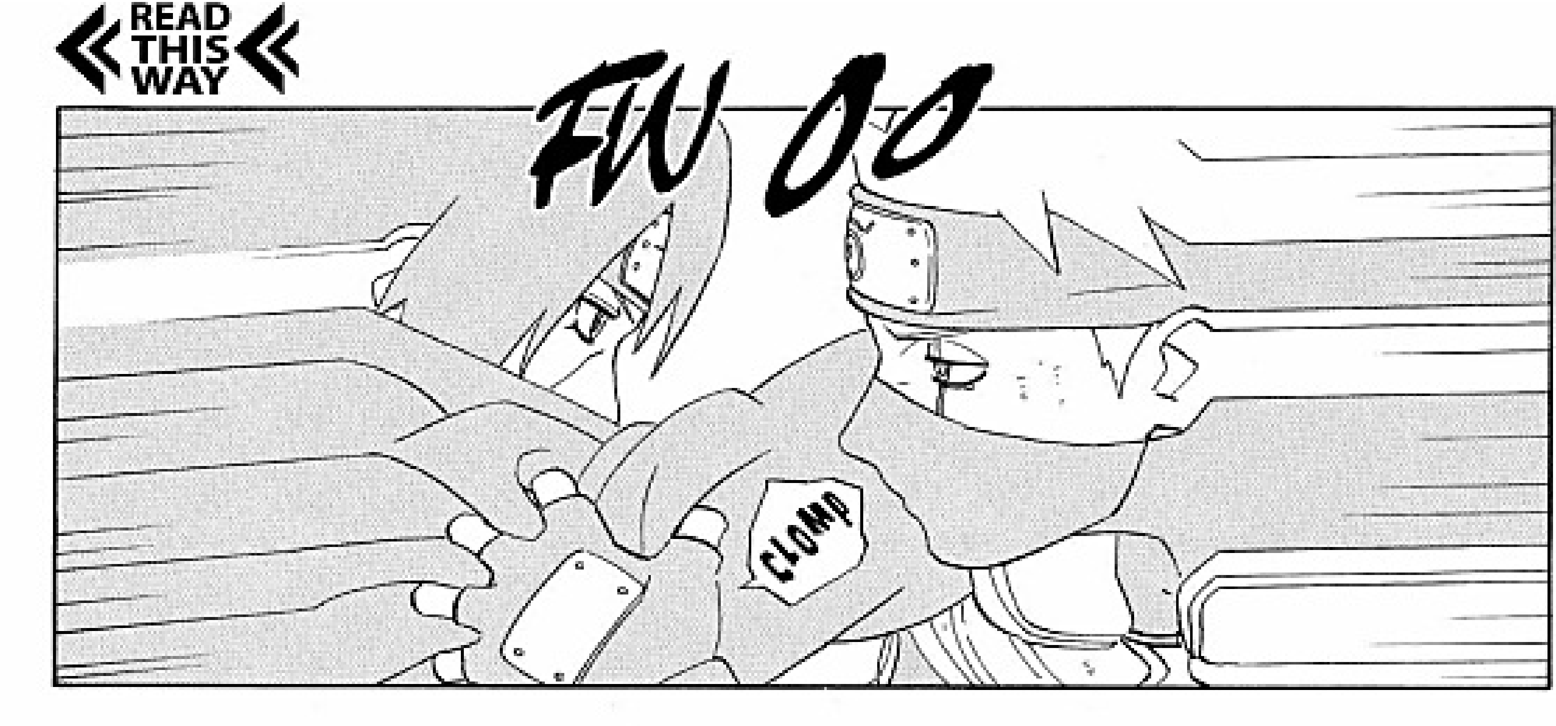

...
CRACKLE CRACKLE



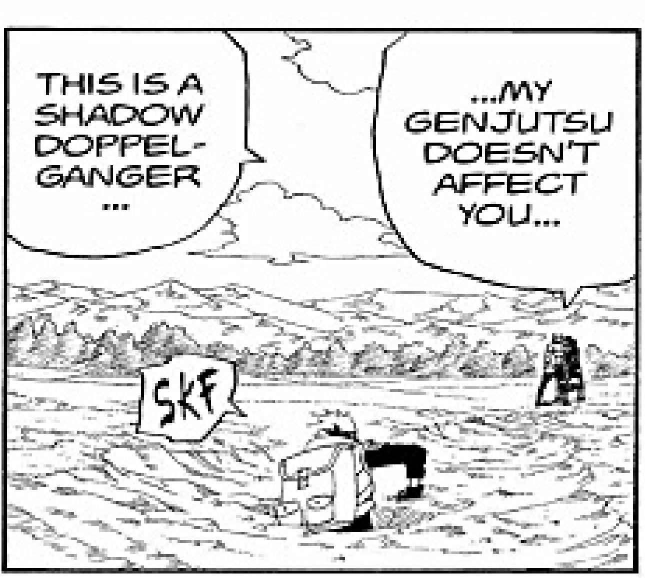

WELL DONE... YOU'RE SKILLED IN JUTSU.
WHEN YOU HID YOURSELF WITH EARTH STYLE...
...IT TOOK ME A WHILE TO TELL.

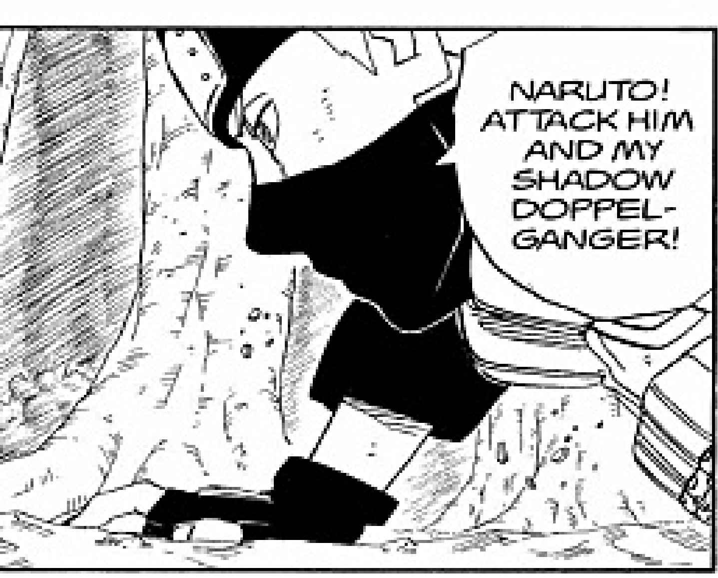


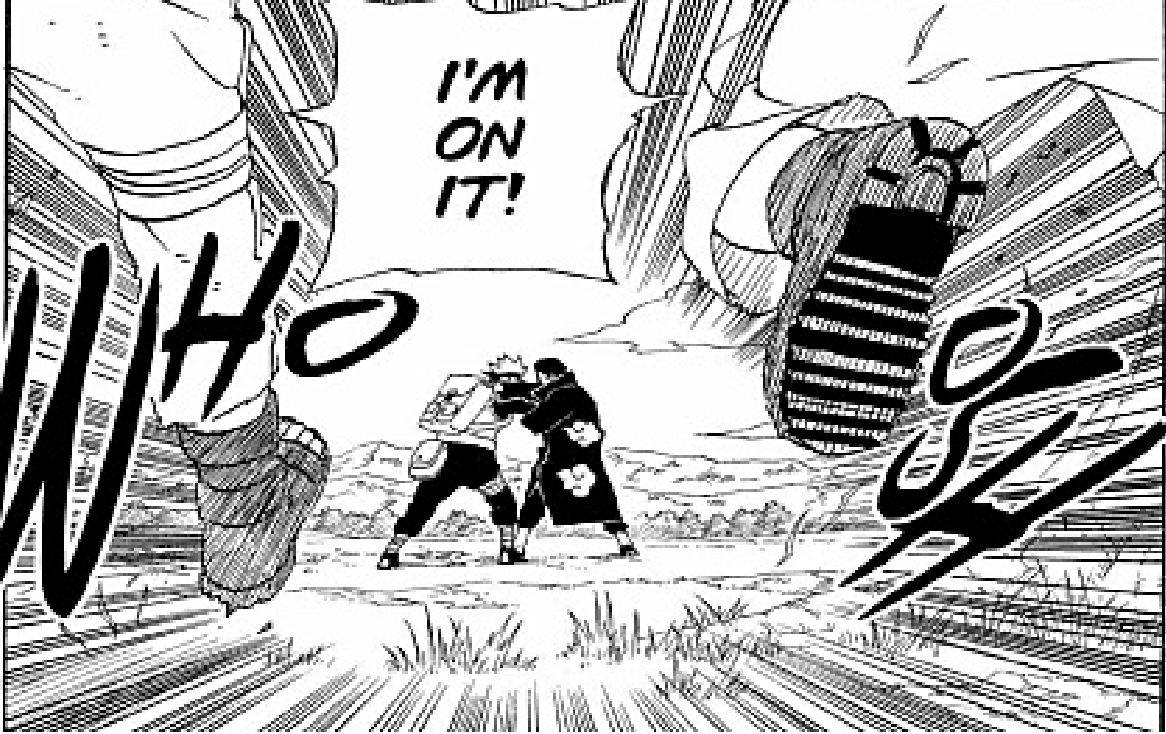
READ THIS WAY







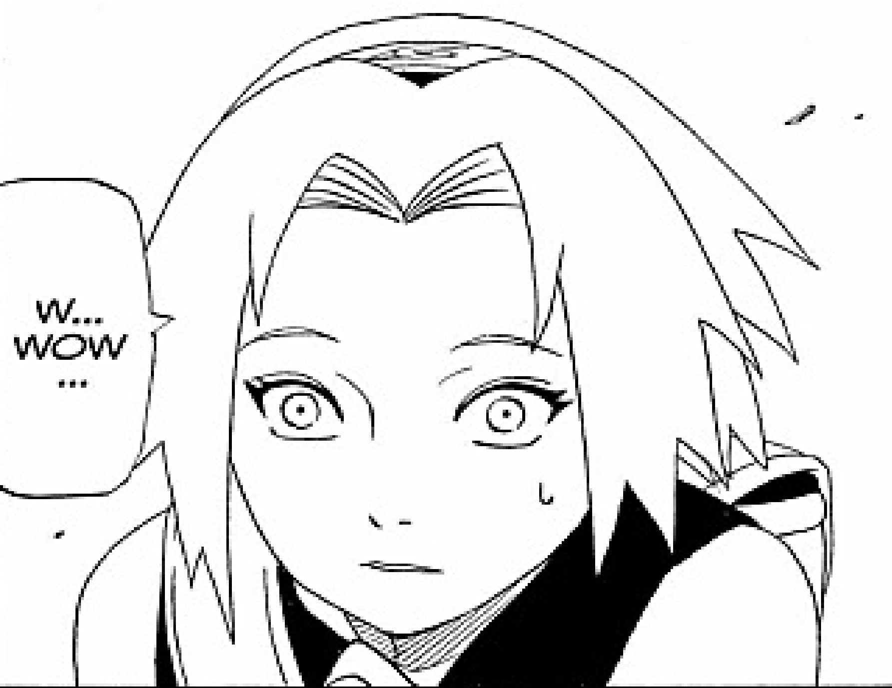


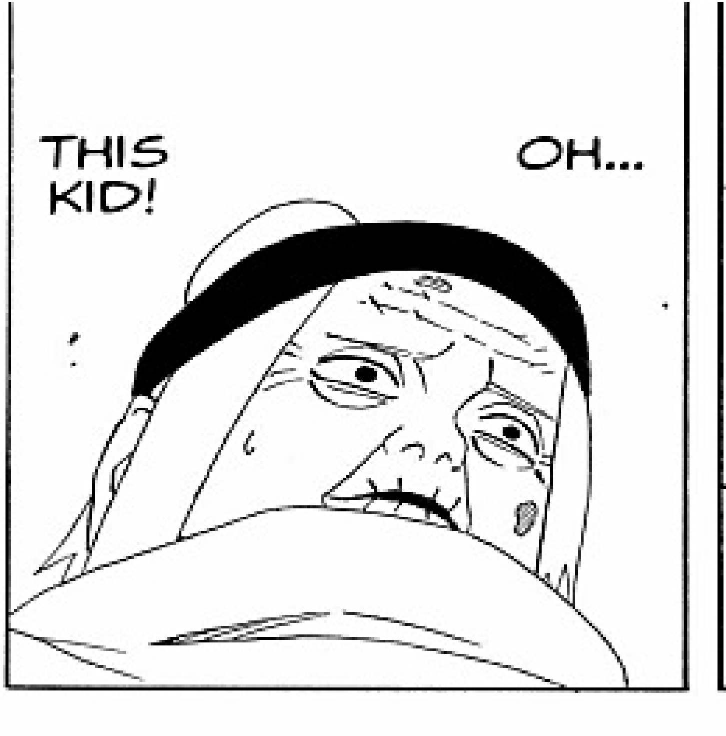





WHA


ODAMA RASEN-GAN! GIANT SPIRAL SPHERE !!
BOOF





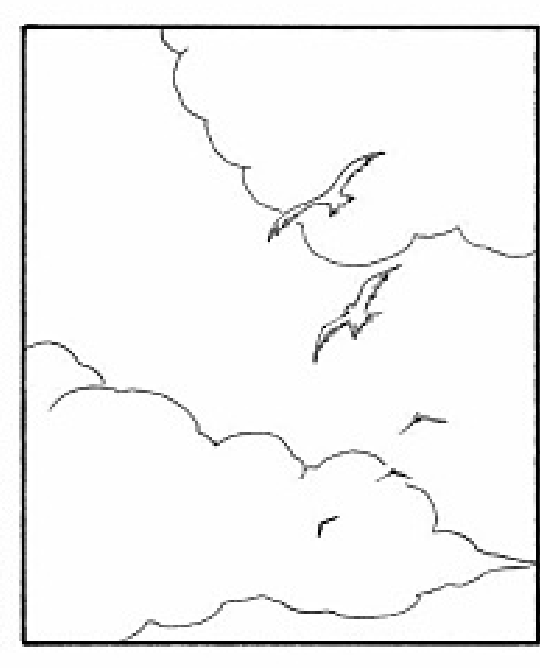


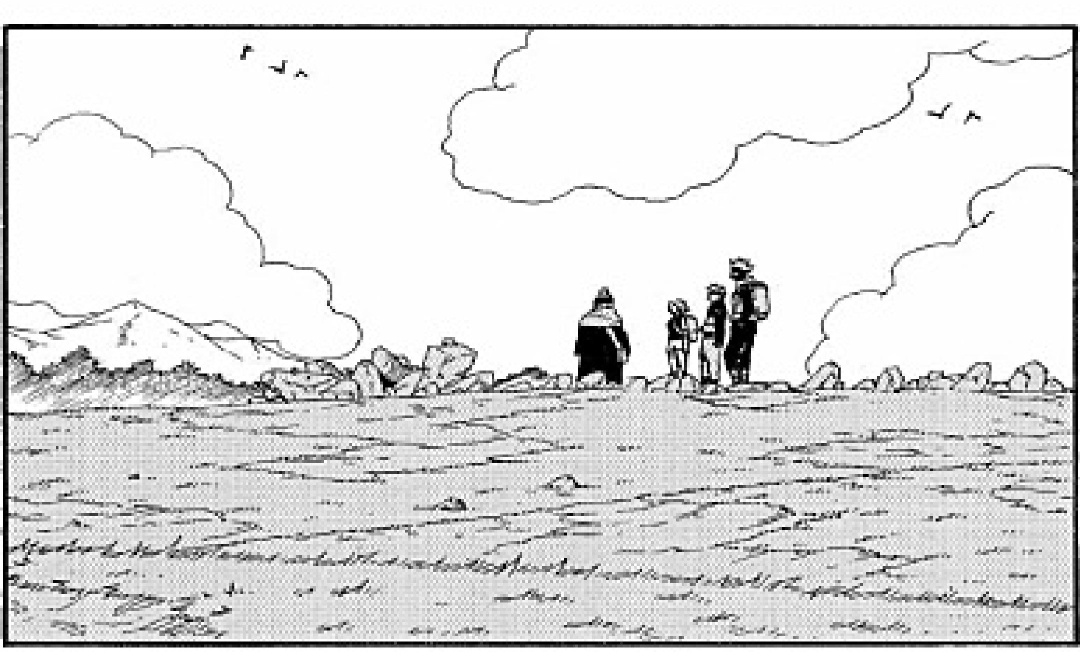


HEH

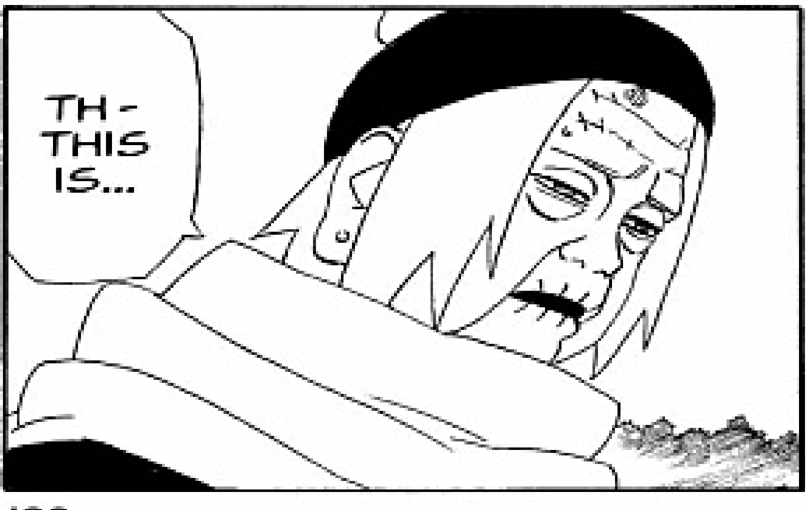
RUMMBLE

BOOM










FWOOSH



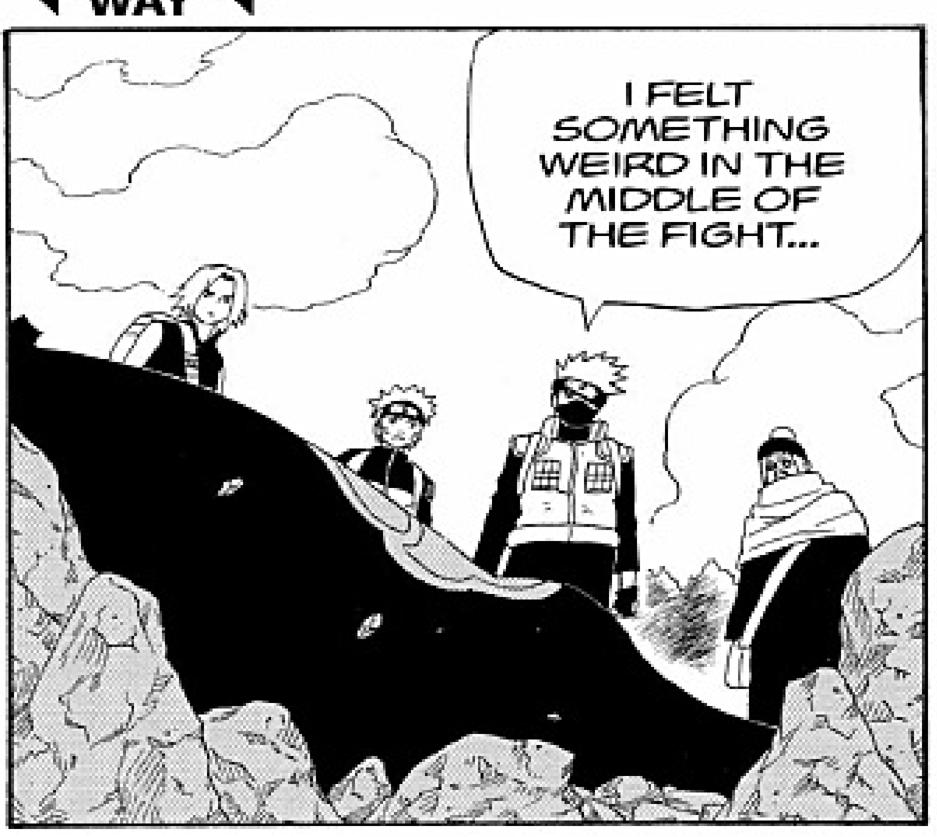

SO... WHAT WAS THAT?


...
...

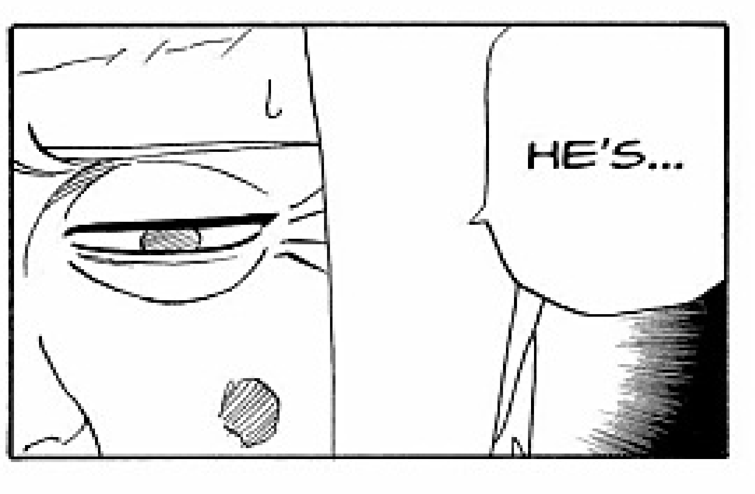

I DON'T KNOW ...
PROB-ABLY, IT'S THEIR...

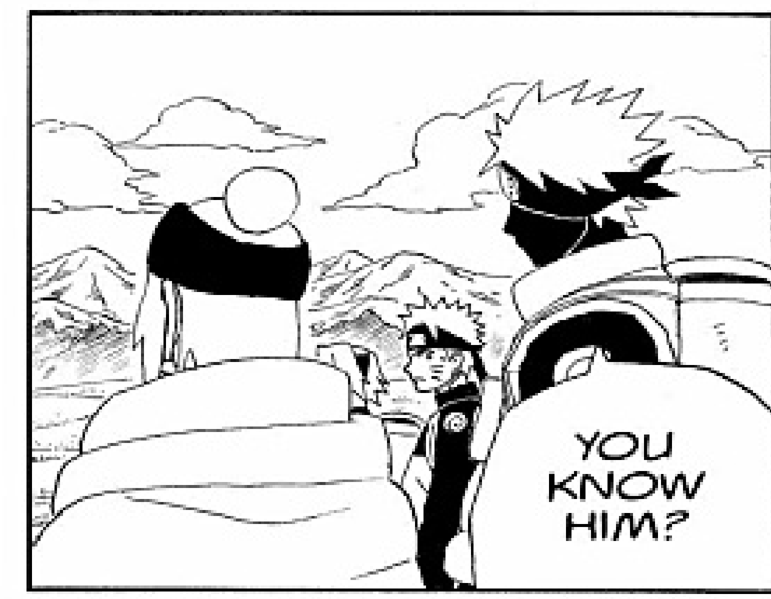

READ
THIS
WAY

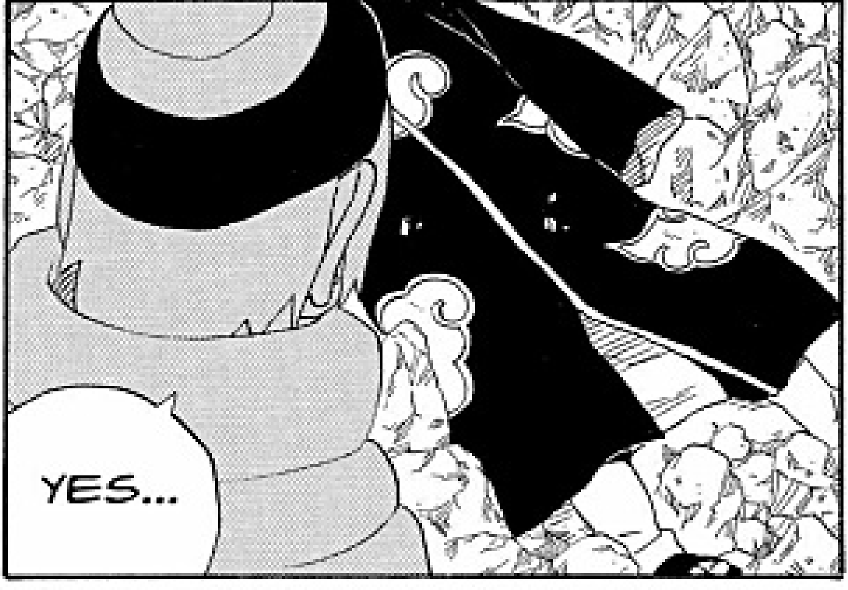

... THEIR... JUTSU OR SOME-THING...


I FELT SOMETHING WEIRD IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FIGHT...


WHAT'S GOING ON...?!

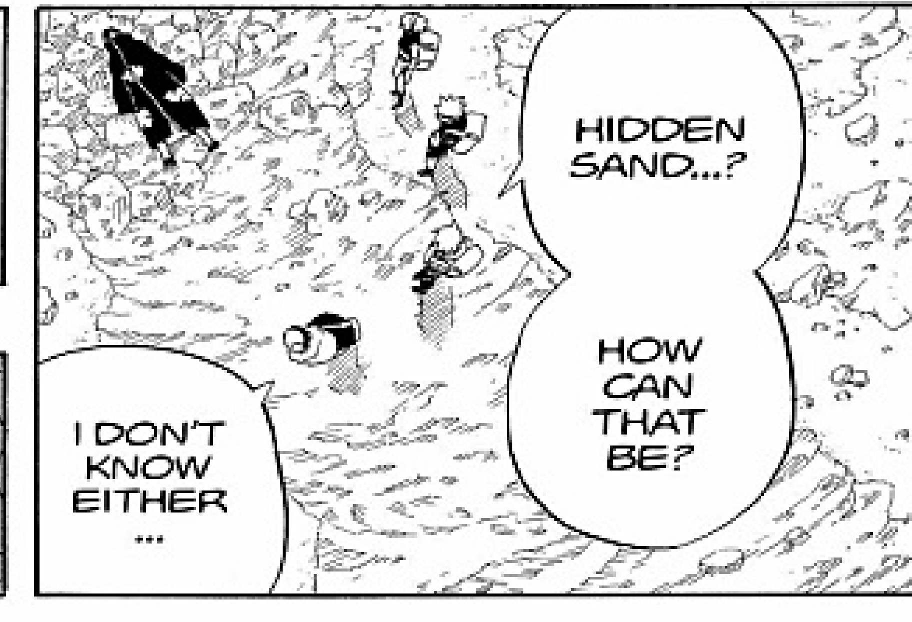

HE'S...


YOU KNOW HIM?


YES...

YURA...

HE'S A JÔNIN FROM OUR VILLAGE.





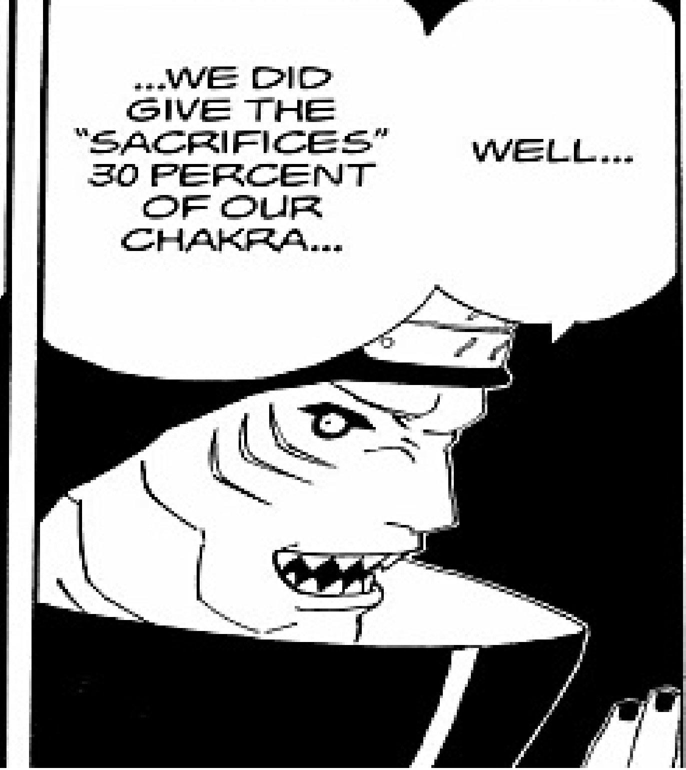


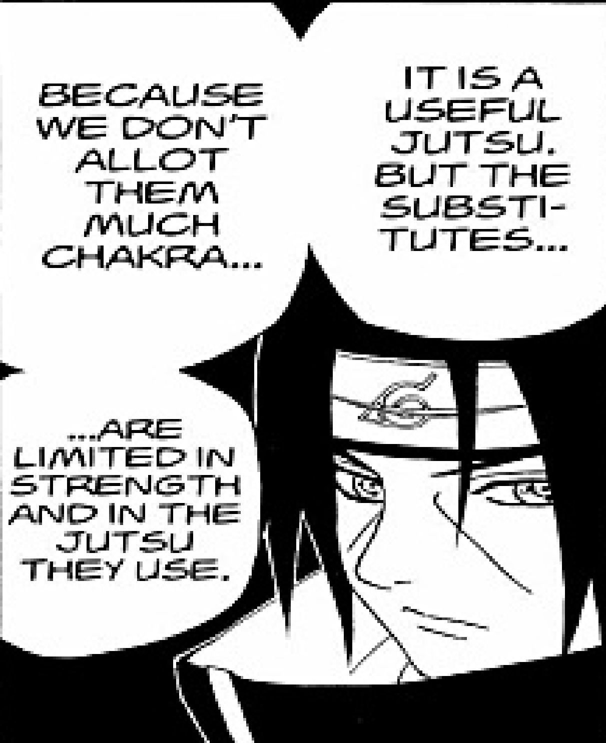







YOU'RE DONE TOO, HUH?
YEAH... I'M OUT OF CHAKRA.
...BUT THAT WAS ENOUGH TO DELAY THEM.

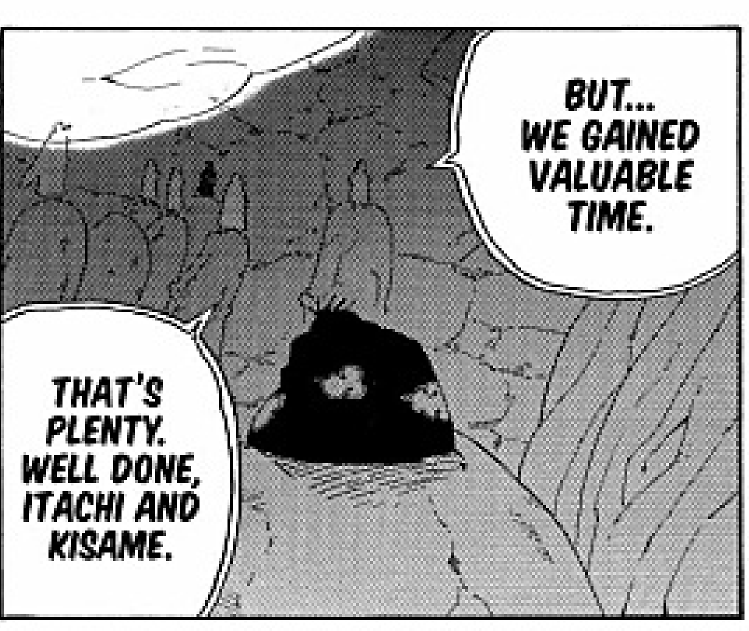

WELL...
...WE DID GIVE THE "SACRIFICES" 30 PERCENT OF OUR CHAKRA...


IT IS A USEFUL JUTSU. BUT THE SUBSTITUTES...
BECAUSE WE DON'T ALLOT THEM MUCH CHAKRA...
...ARE LIMITED IN STRENGTH AND IN THE JUTSU THEY USE.

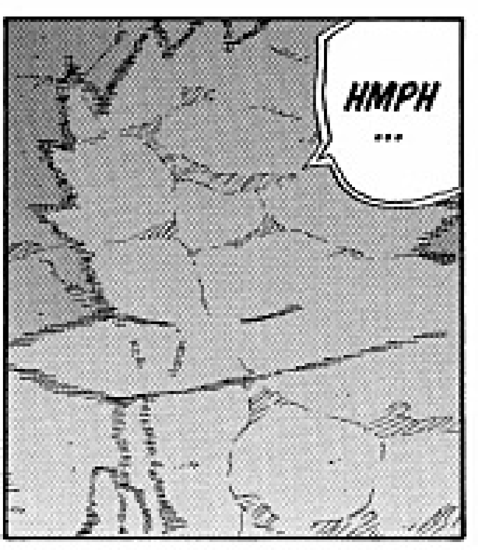

...
SHF

ZOOOOP


THE JUTSU WAS BROKEN ...?


BUT... WE GAINED VALUABLE TIME.
THAT'S PLENTY. WELL DONE, ITACHI AND KISAME.

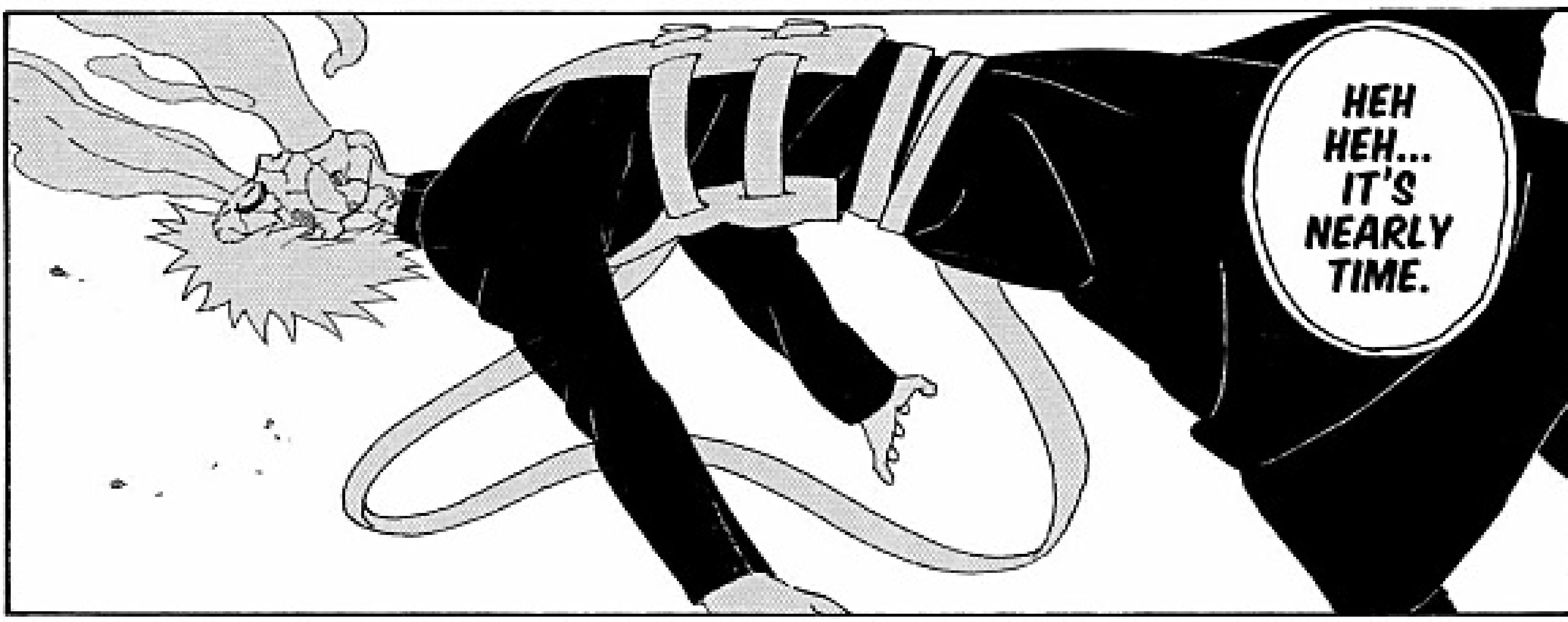

THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY.
BUT THE TWO WHO OFFERED THEIR BODIES FOR YOUR SACRIFICES WERE...
...MY MEN.


HMPH ...

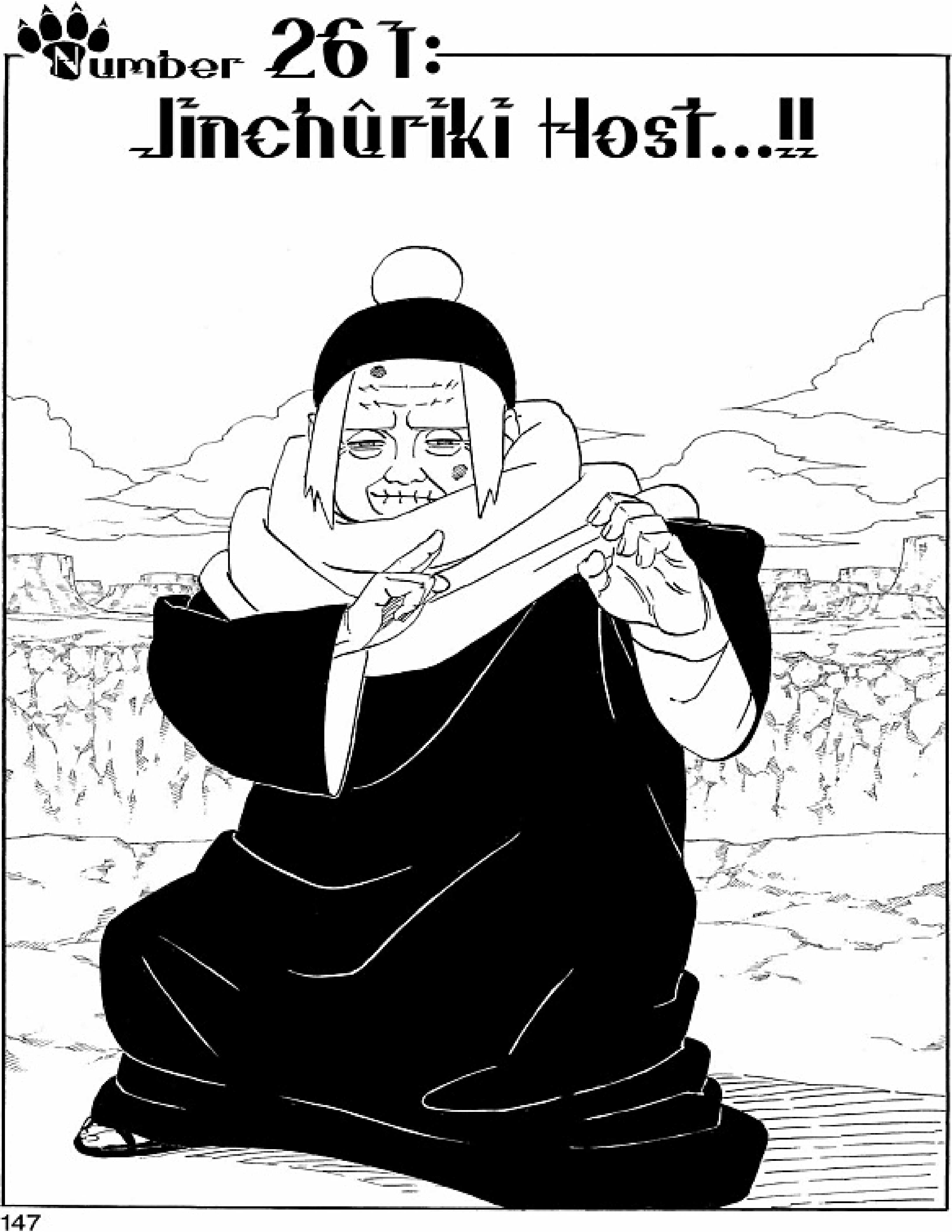

I WOULD EXPECT THEIR THANKS FOR THE PRIVILEGE ...

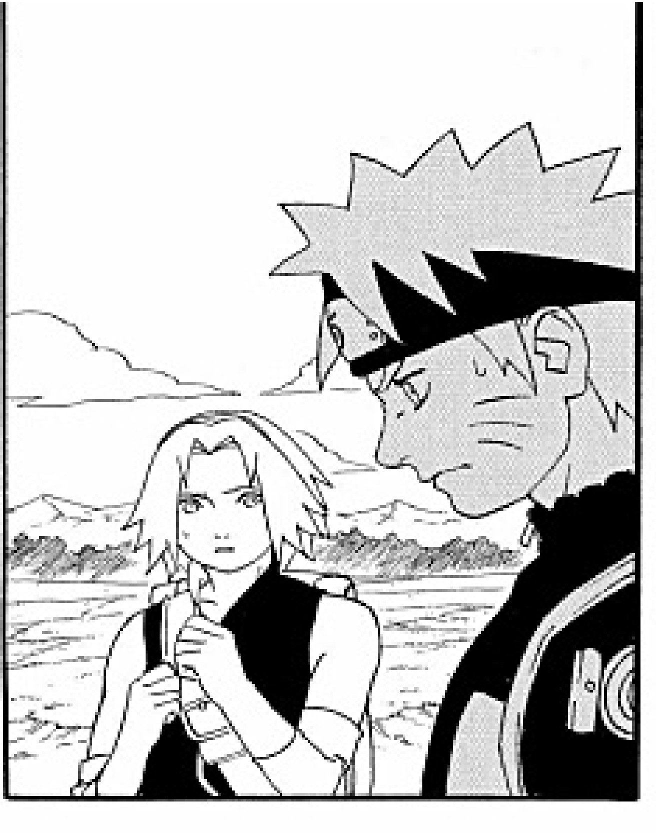

THEY WERE AKATSUKI MEMBERS FOR A SHORT TIME BECAUSE OF MY ART OF IMPERSONATION TECHNIQUE.

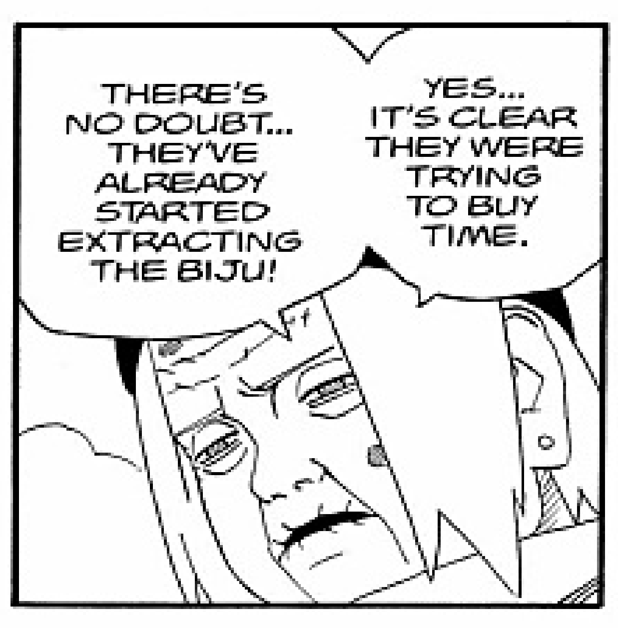

...

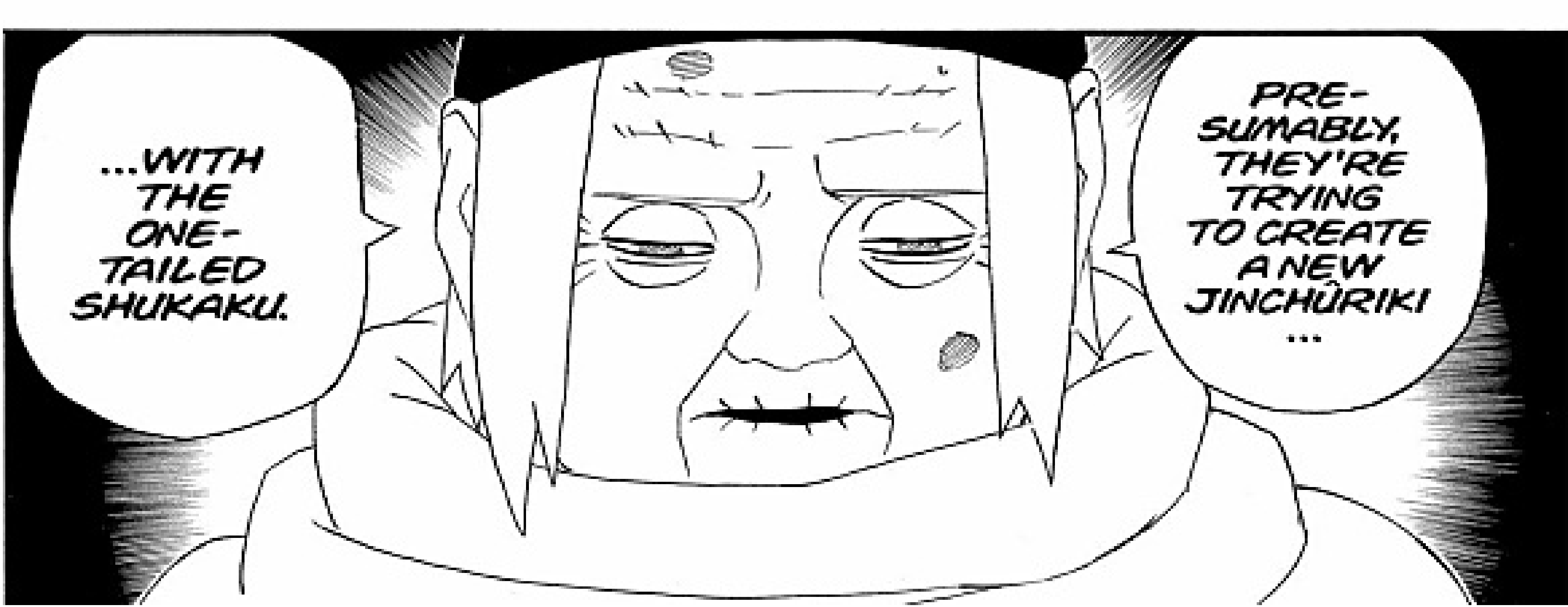

HEH HEH... IT'S NEARLY TIME.


NARUTO


Number 261:
Jinchûriki Host...!!


THE REAL ITACHI IS AT THE AKATSUKI LAIR...
THIS REPLICA WAS TO SLOW US DOWN AND GATHER INTELLI-GENCE ON US...
THEY'RE GOOD.


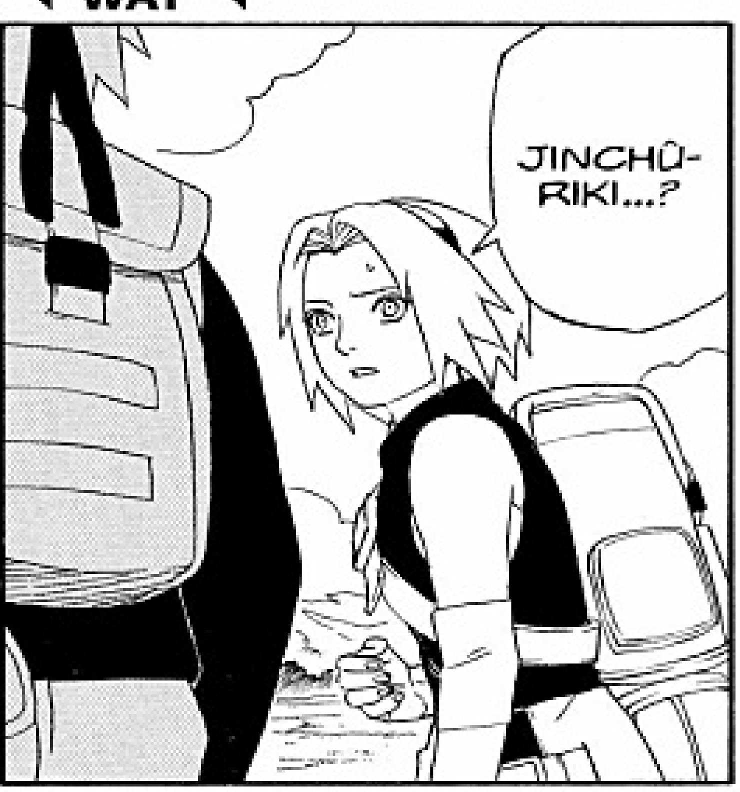
...NARUTO, SINCE WE'VE BEEN APART... YOU...
...YOU... TOOK ON GUYS LIKE THIS?

YES... IT'S CLEAR THEY WERE TRYING TO BUY TIME.
THERE'S NO DOUBT... THEY'VE ALREADY STARTED EXTRACTING THE BIJU!

?

PRE-SUMABLY, THEY'RE TRYING TO CREATE A NEW JINCHÛRIKI ...
...WITH THE ONE-TAILED SHUKAKU.


READ
THIS
WAY


...THEN THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE...
WE HAVE TO HURRY TO RESCUE GAARA...


YES...


JINCHŪ-RIKI...?

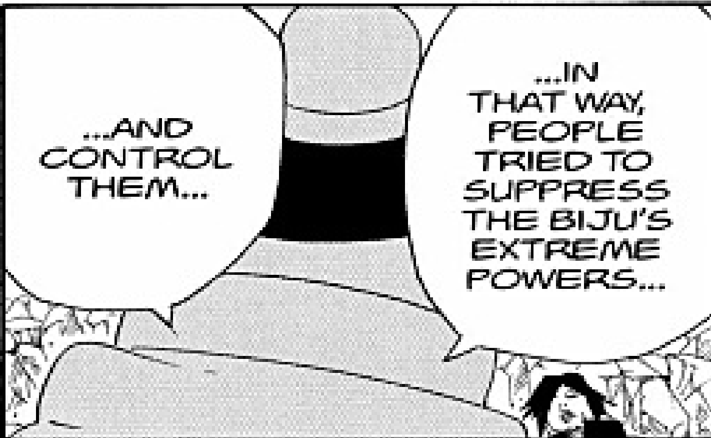

...


AS I EXPLAINED ...
...BIJU HAVE SUPER-HUMAN POWERS...
...AND EACH COUNTRY ...
...TRIED TO USE THEM FOR MILITARY PURPOSES ...


IF YOU CAN CONTROL THE JINCHŪRIKI ...
...YOU CAN CONTROL THE BIJU HE IS HOSTING.
...


...BUT, *YOU* SAID NO ONE COULD CONTROL ...
...SUCH POWER.

NO ONE COULD... IN THE END...
BUT AT ONE TIME PEOPLE DID TRY TO CONTROL THEM...
...BY SEALING BIJU IN HUMANS.

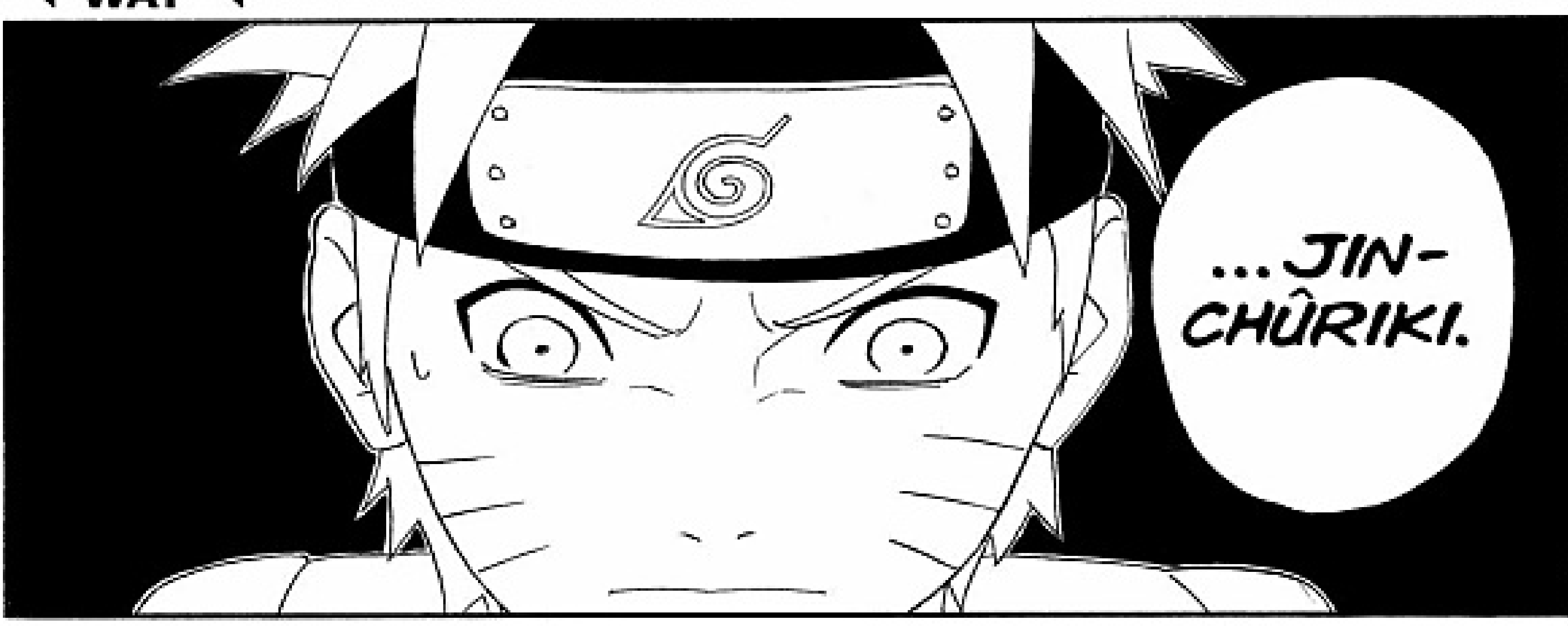

...IN THAT WAY, PEOPLE TRIED TO SUPPRESS THE BIJU'S EXTREME POWERS...
...AND CONTROL THEM...


?!
?!

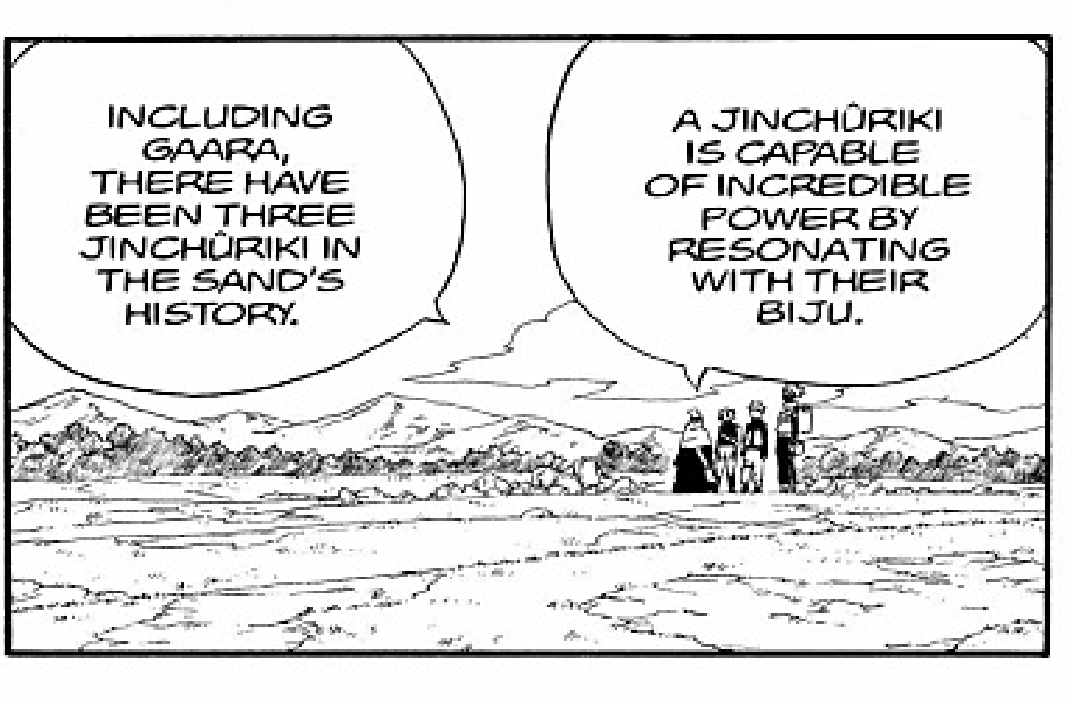

AND PEOPLE IN WHOM BIJU WERE SEALED...
...LIKE GAARA, ARE CALLED...


...


READ THIS WAY


...JIN-CHÛRIKI.


...

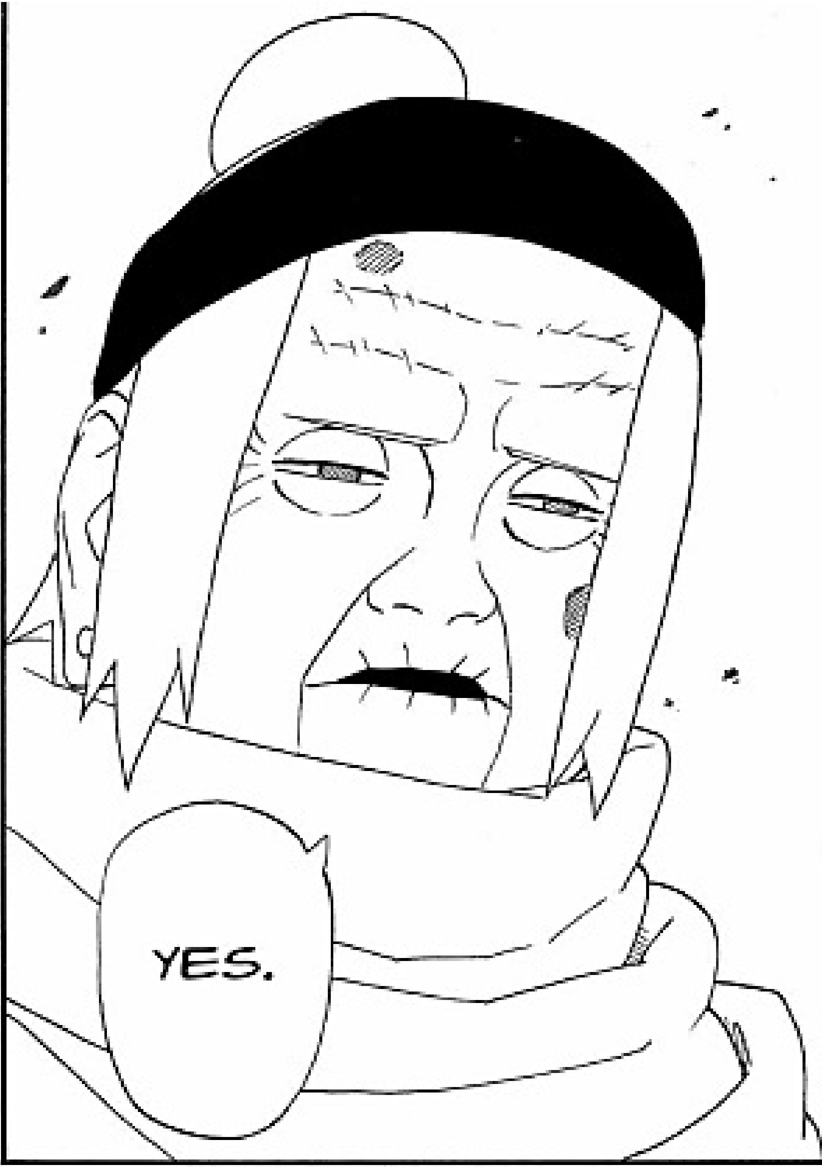

A JINCHÛRIKI IS CAPABLE OF INCREDIBLE POWER BY RESONATING WITH THEIR BIJU.
INCLUDING GAARA, THERE HAVE BEEN THREE JINCHÛRIKI IN THE SAND'S HISTORY.


...




...USING THOSE JINCHÛRIKI ...
PEOPLE HAVE WAGED WAR OVER AND OVER AGAIN, RIGHT?

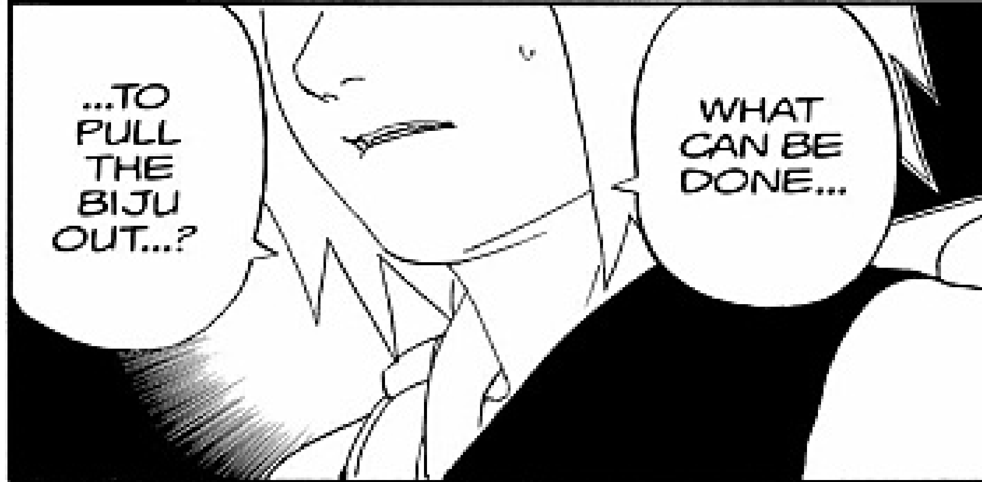

BUT, THEN ...!
WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE THAT WERE MADE INTO JINCHŪRIKI ...?
GRIND
...

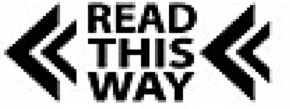

YES.


...

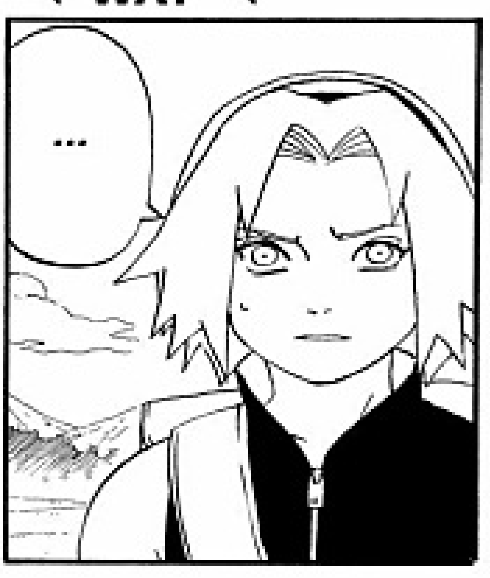

...

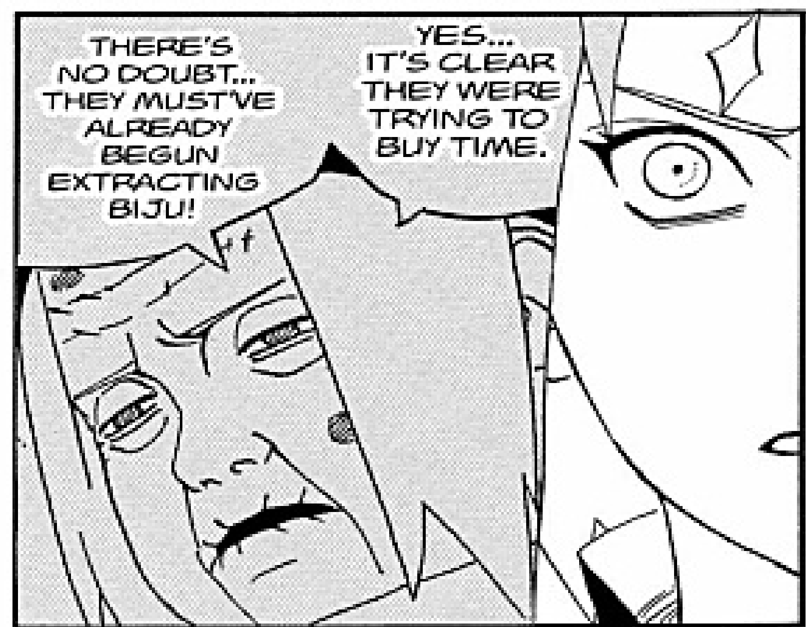

...!

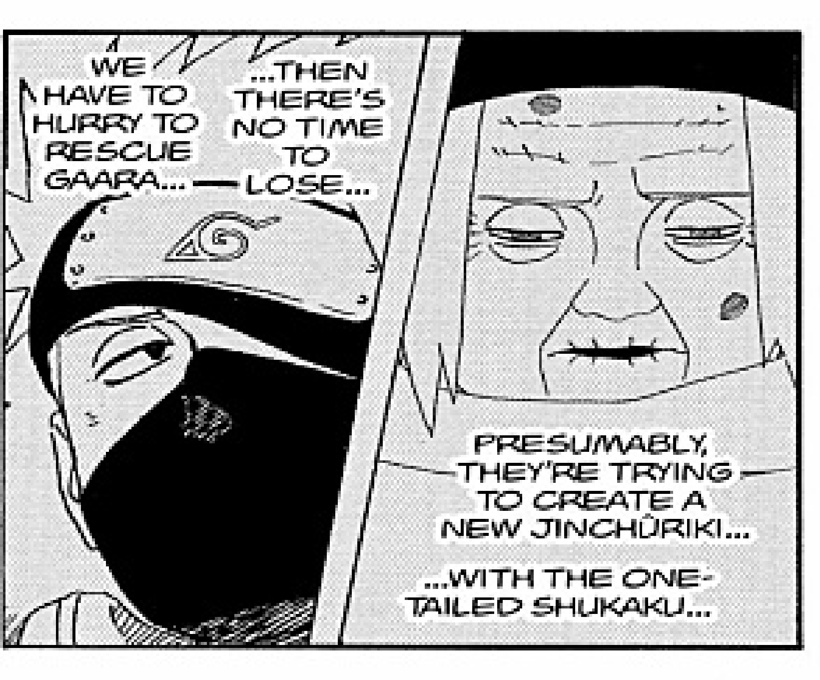

WHAT CAN BE DONE...
...TO PULL THE BIJU OUT...?


READ THIS WAY


REMOVING A BIJU REQUIRES A SEALING JUTSU WITH POWER THAT IS MOMENTARILY EQUAL TO THAT OF THE BIJU...
...AND QUITE A BIT OF TIME.
BUT ONCE THE BIJU IS REMOVED, THE JINCHŪRIKI ...


...


YES... IT'S CLEAR THEY WERE TRYING TO BUY TIME.
THERE'S NO DOUBT... THEY MUST'VE ALREADY BEGUN EXTRACTING BIJU!


PRESUMABLY, THEY'RE TRYING TO CREATE A NEW JINCHŪRIKI...
...WITH THE ONE-TAILED SHUKAKU...
...THEN THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE...
WE HAVE TO HURRY TO RESCUE GAARA...


...OH, NO...

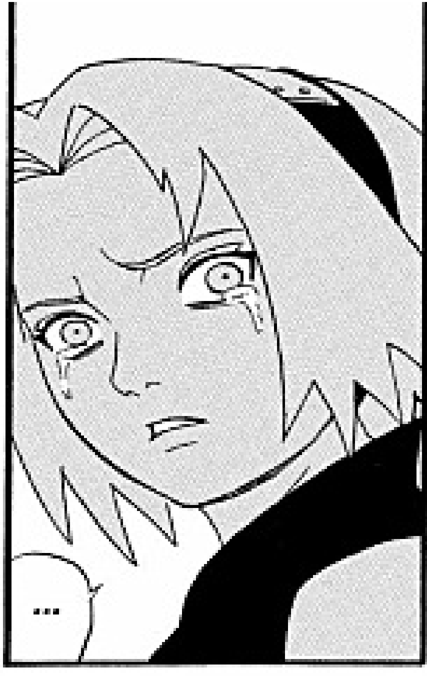

...


...

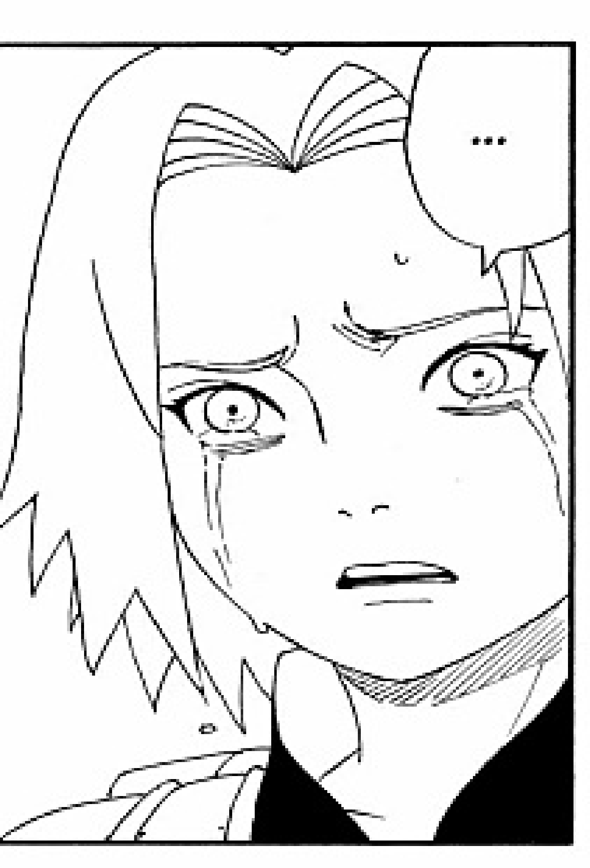

... YES.

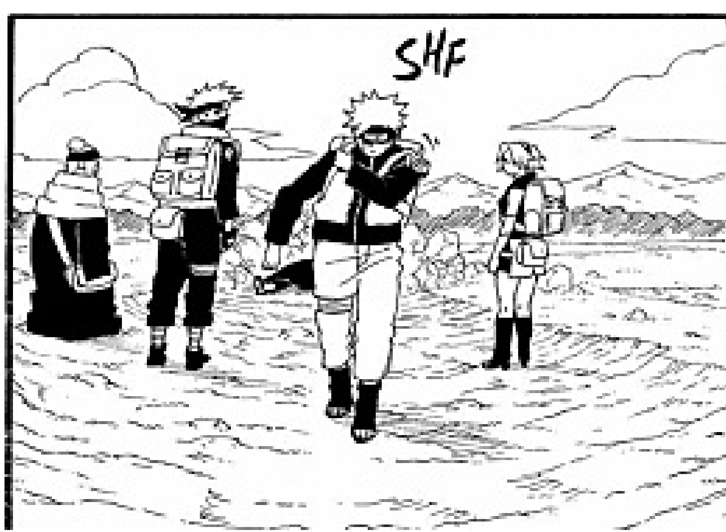

WHEN THE BIJU IS REMOVED, THE JINCHŪRIKI ...
...DIES.
...
...
BOTH OF THE SAND'S OTHER JINCHŪRIKI I JUST MENTIONED ...
...DIED BECAUSE SHUKAKU WAS REMOVED ...
SOB
...
ALWAYS QUICK TO CRY, SAKURA...
DON'T WORRY...

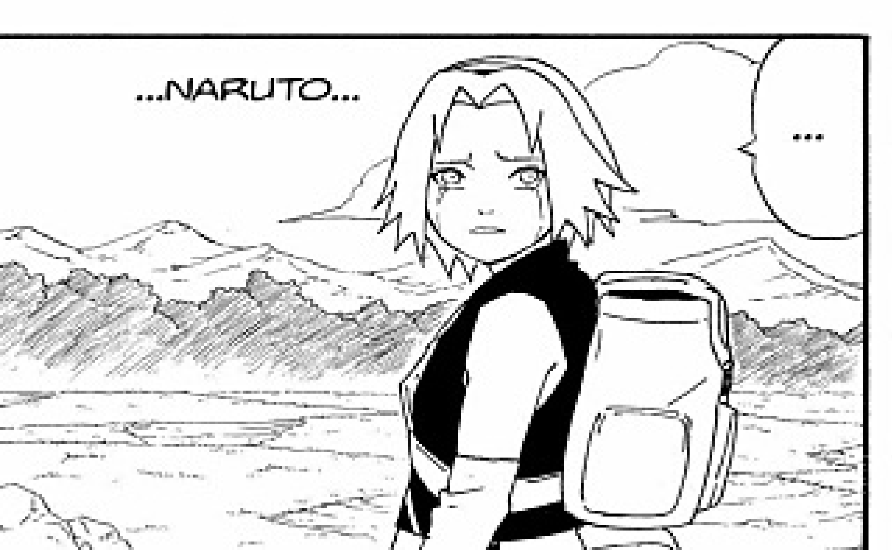

I'M GONNA SAVE GAARA!


...


I...!
NARUTO ...IT'S YOU I'M–
WE'D BETTER HURRY!


...

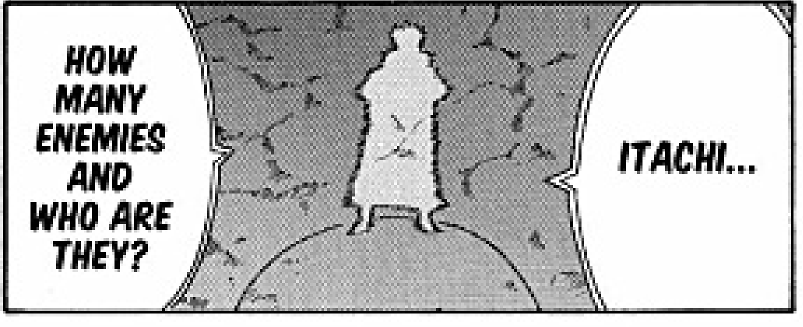

SHF

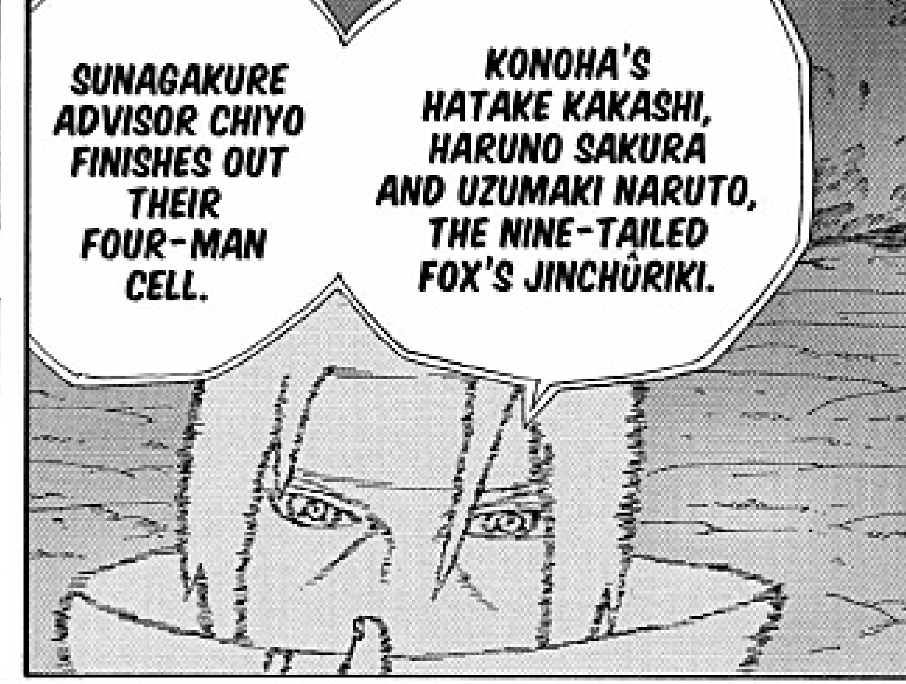

...
...NARUTO...


RRUMBLE


ZETSU.
TAKE CARE OF THE TWO USED FOR THE ART OF IMPERSON-ATION.


...OF COURSE.

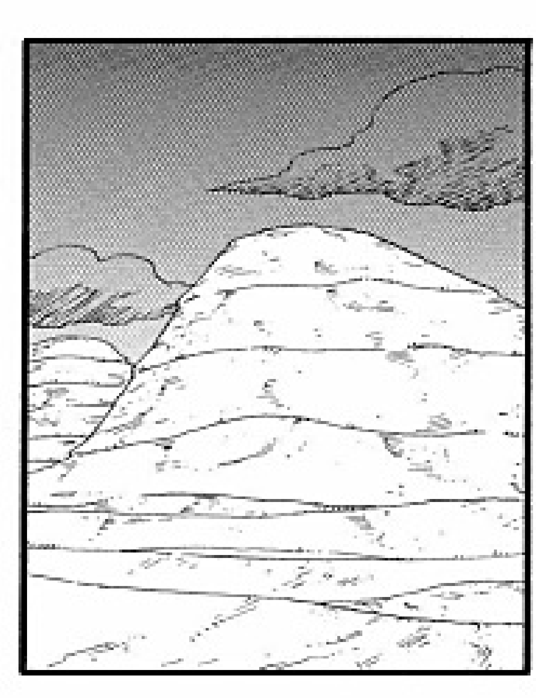

ITACHI...
HOW MANY ENEMIES AND WHO ARE THEY?


KONOHA'S HATAKE KAKASHI, HARUNO SAKURA AND UZUMAKI NARUTO, THE NINE-TAILED FOX'S JINCHÛRIKI.
SUNAGAKURE ADVISOR CHIYO FINISHES OUT THEIR FOUR-MAN CELL.

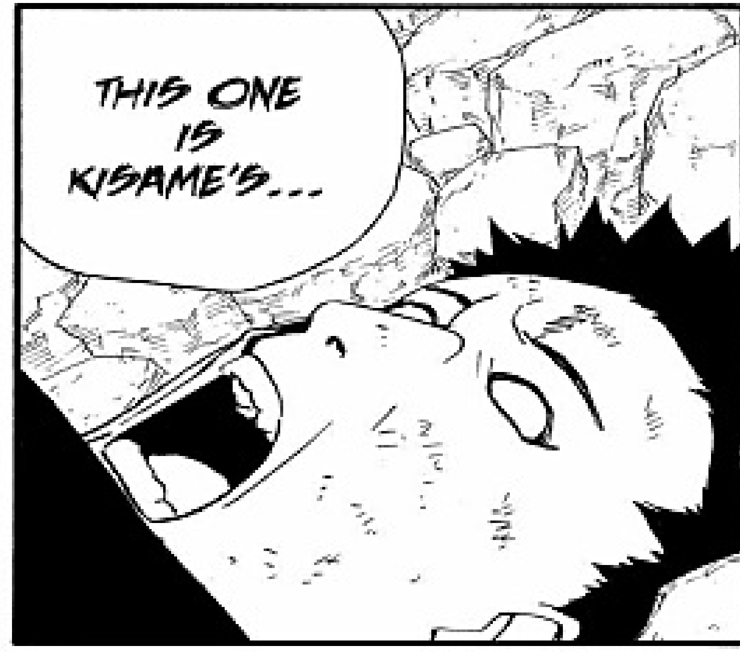

!
FLINCH

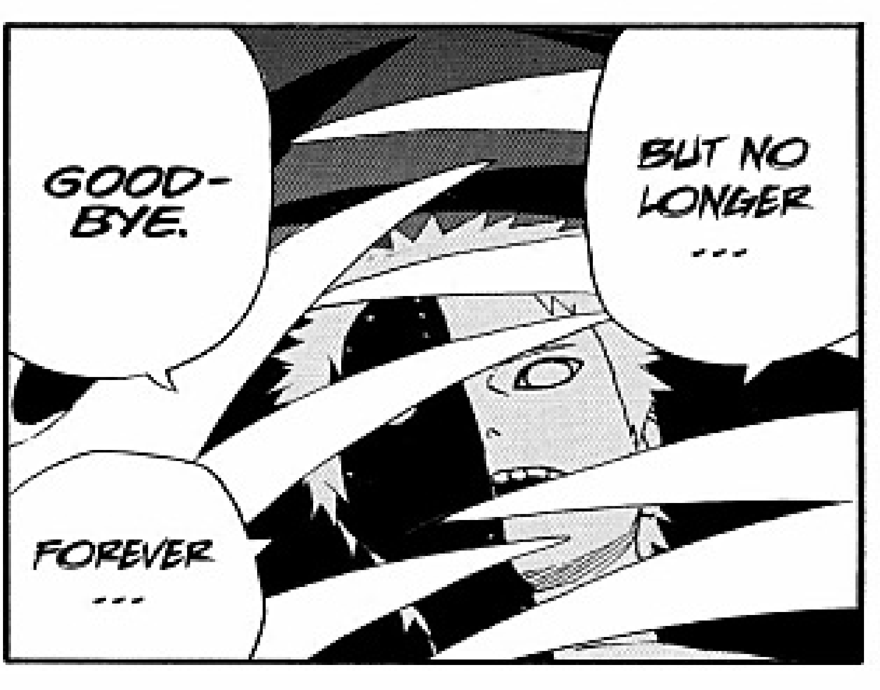

GRANNY CHIYO!

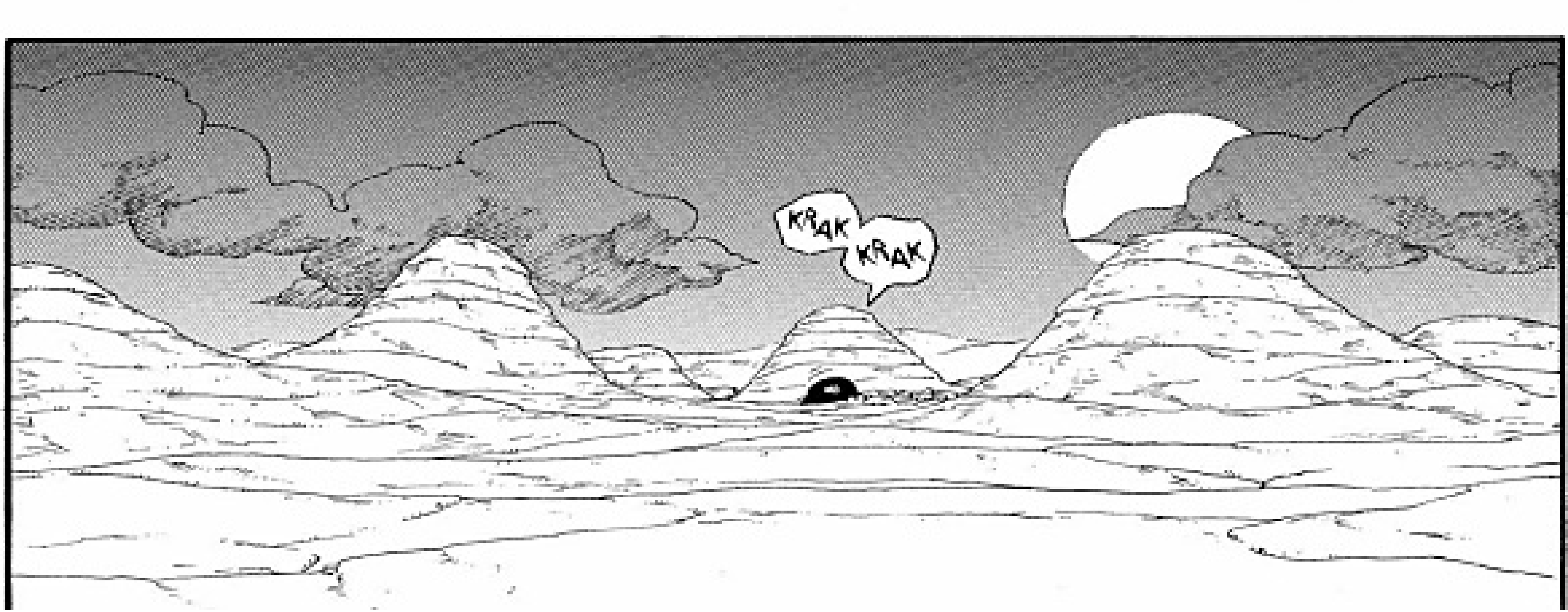

READ THIS WAY



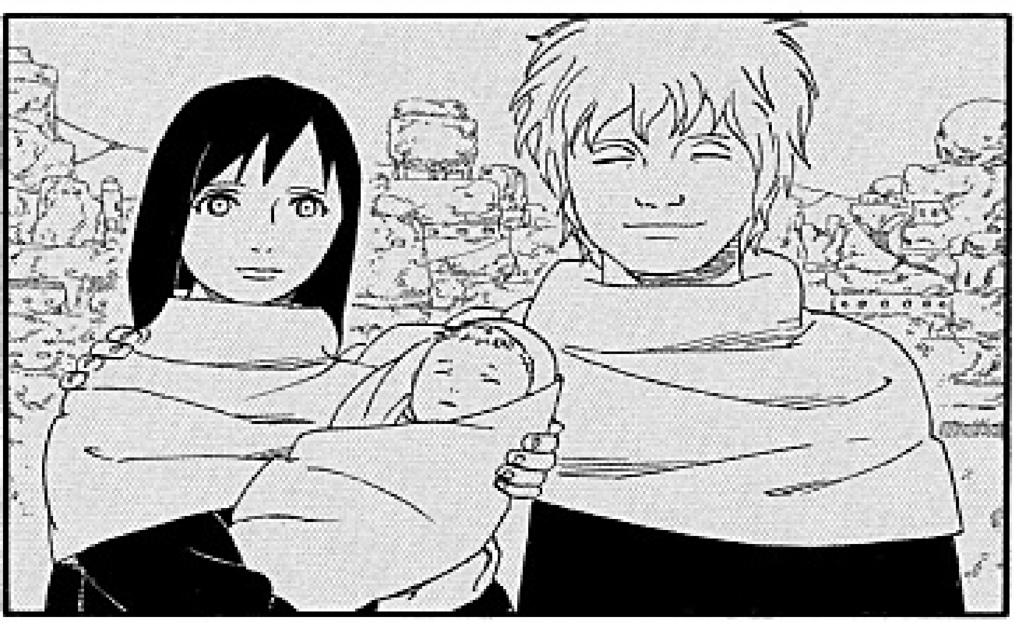


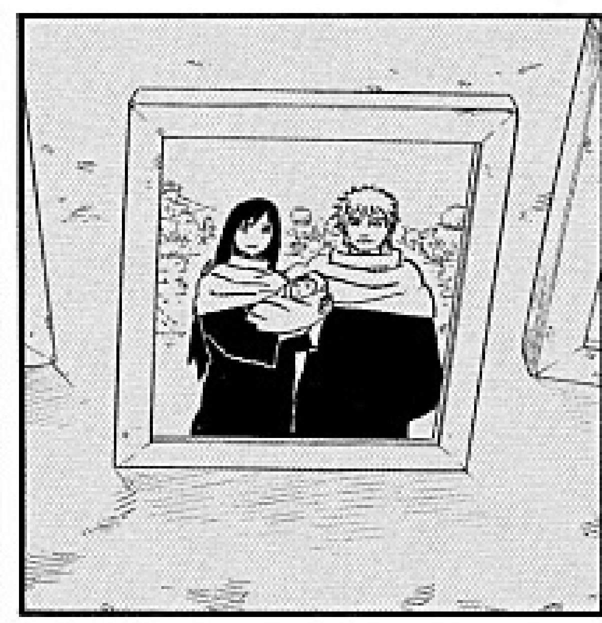

THIS ONE IS KISAME'S...

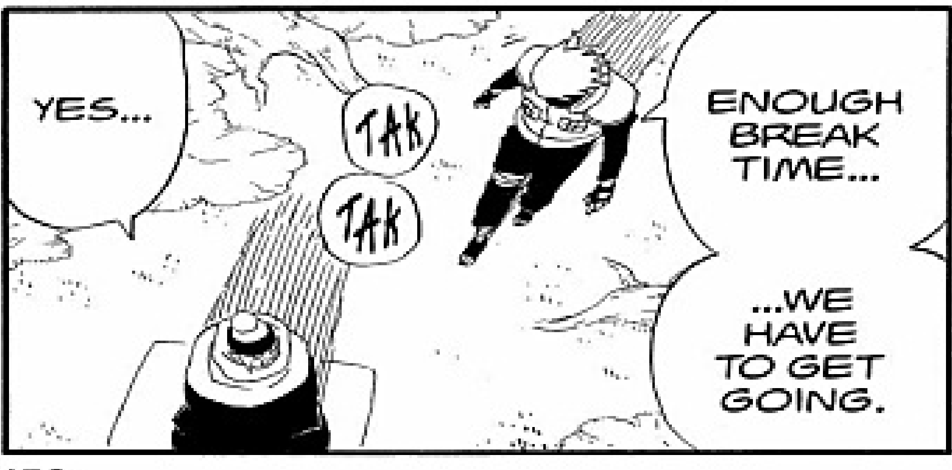

BUT NO LONGER
...
GOOD-BYE.
FOREVER
...


KRAK
KRAK





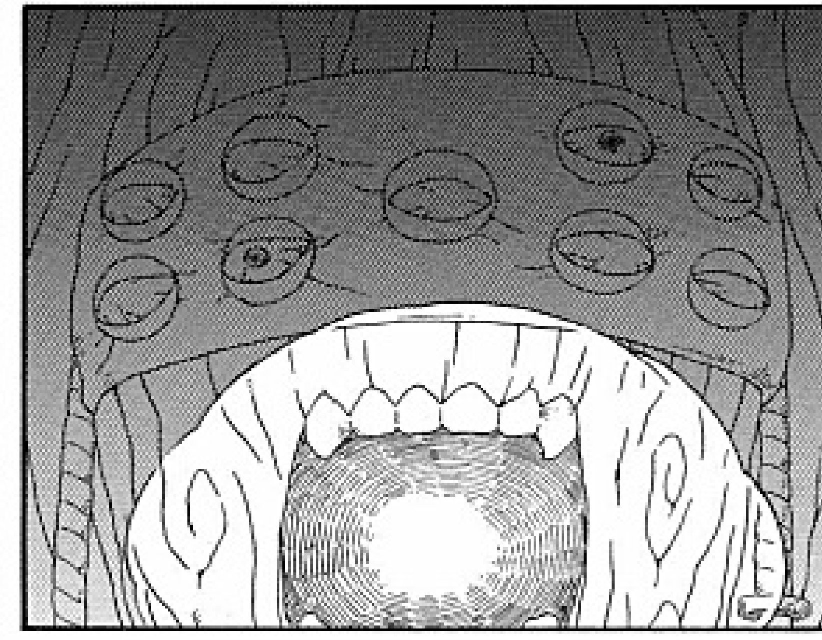



ENOUGH BREAK TIME...
...WE HAVE TO GET GOING.
TAK
TAK
YES...


...SASORI...


FWOOOO


VVMMM






IT'S NEARLY COM-PLETE.


WHOSE ...
...HAND IS THIS...?


AH...
IT'S MINE...

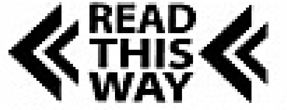

...

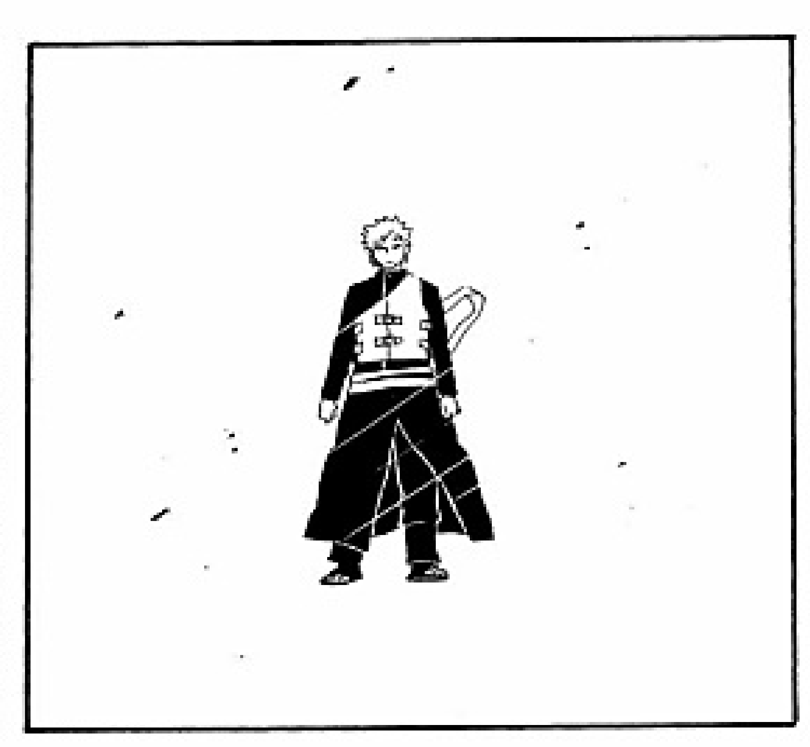

HAVE I... BECOME SOME-ONE...
...THAT PEOPLE NEED?


SHU


WHO'S...
...THAT...?

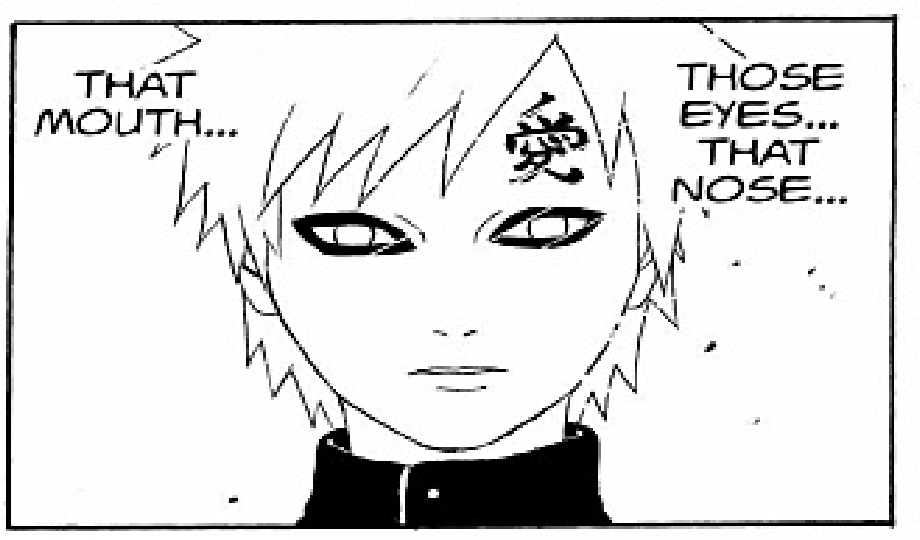

...ME ...?


READ
THIS
WAY



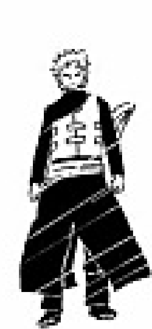

...THAT'S ME... WANTING TO BE NEEDED BY SOMEONE...
WHY... WHY DID I WANT THAT ...?


WHY... DO I...
...WISH FOR THAT?

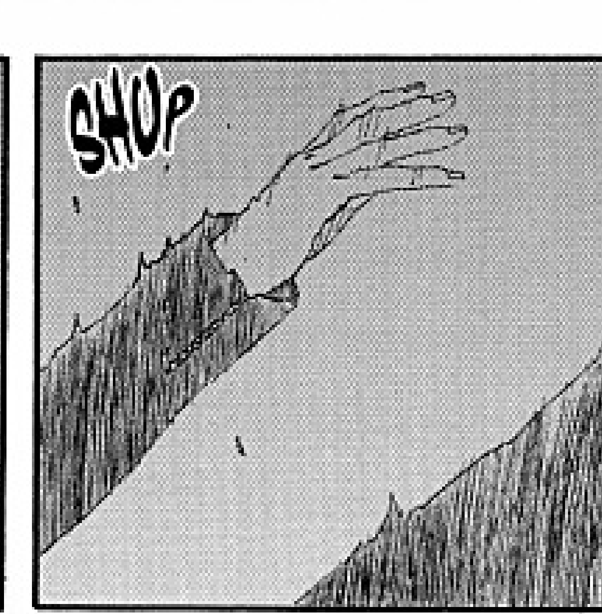

THOSE EYES... THAT NOSE...
THAT MOUTH...


...WHY ...?
...WHY IS THAT ...? GAARA ...


I WAS IN THERE ...
NO... WHAT AM I ANYWAY?


I'M ONLY AWARE OF BEING "ME."
SO... WHO AM "I"...?
...JUST A... SMALL...
...CONSCIOUSNESS...

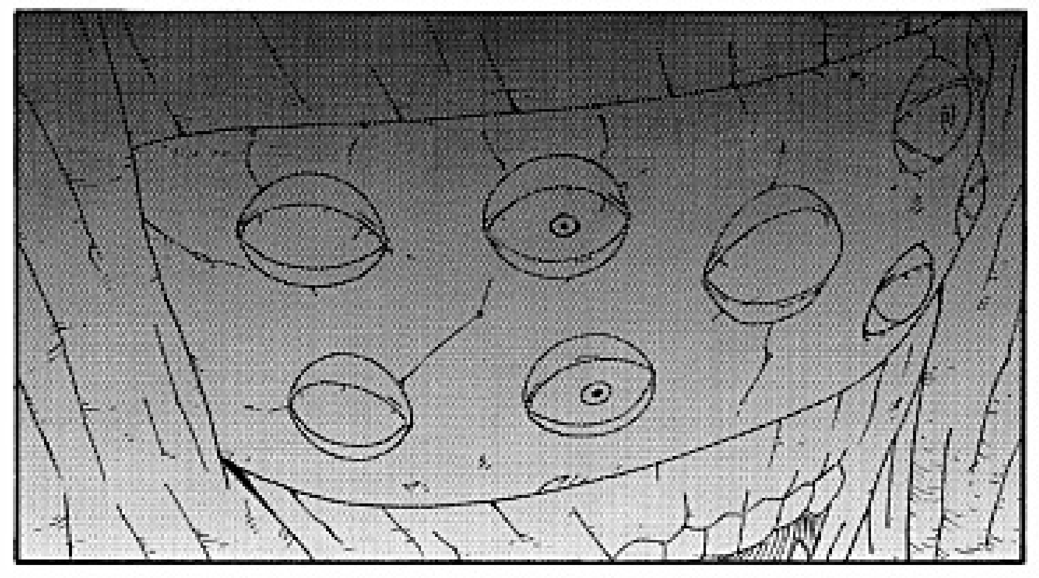


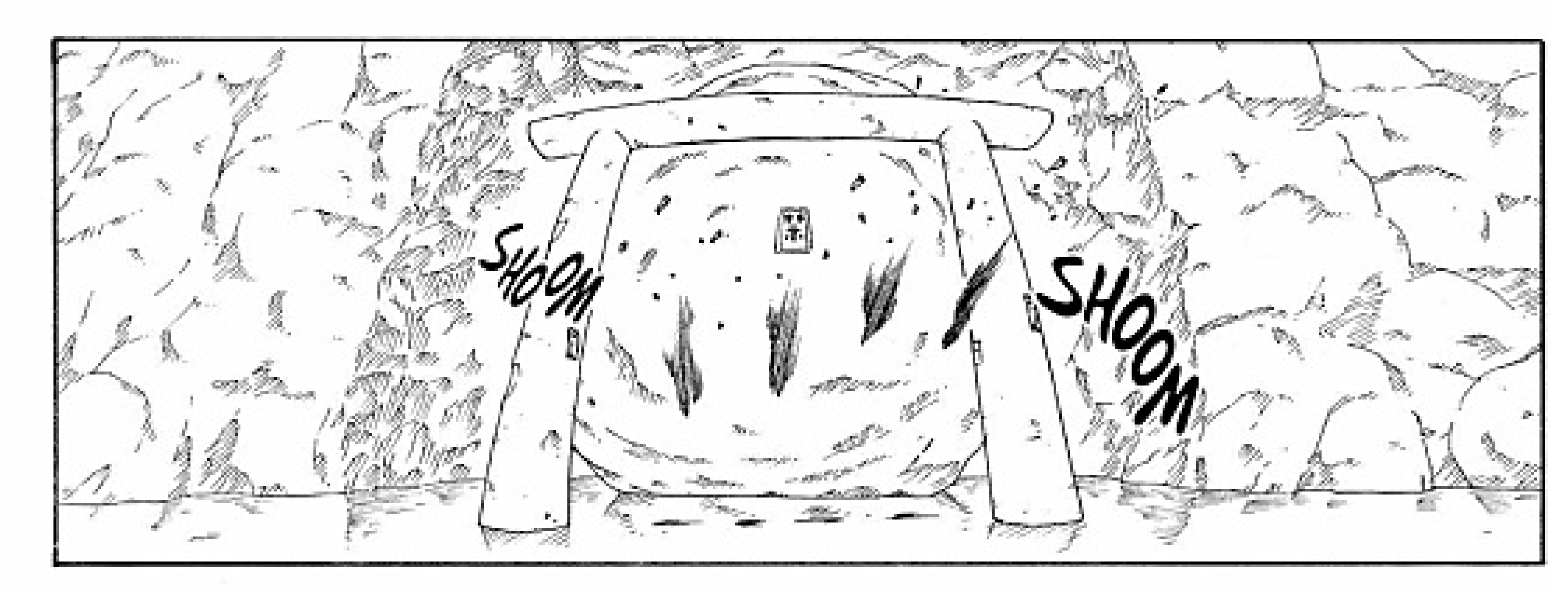

SHUP


THUD


READ THIS WAY

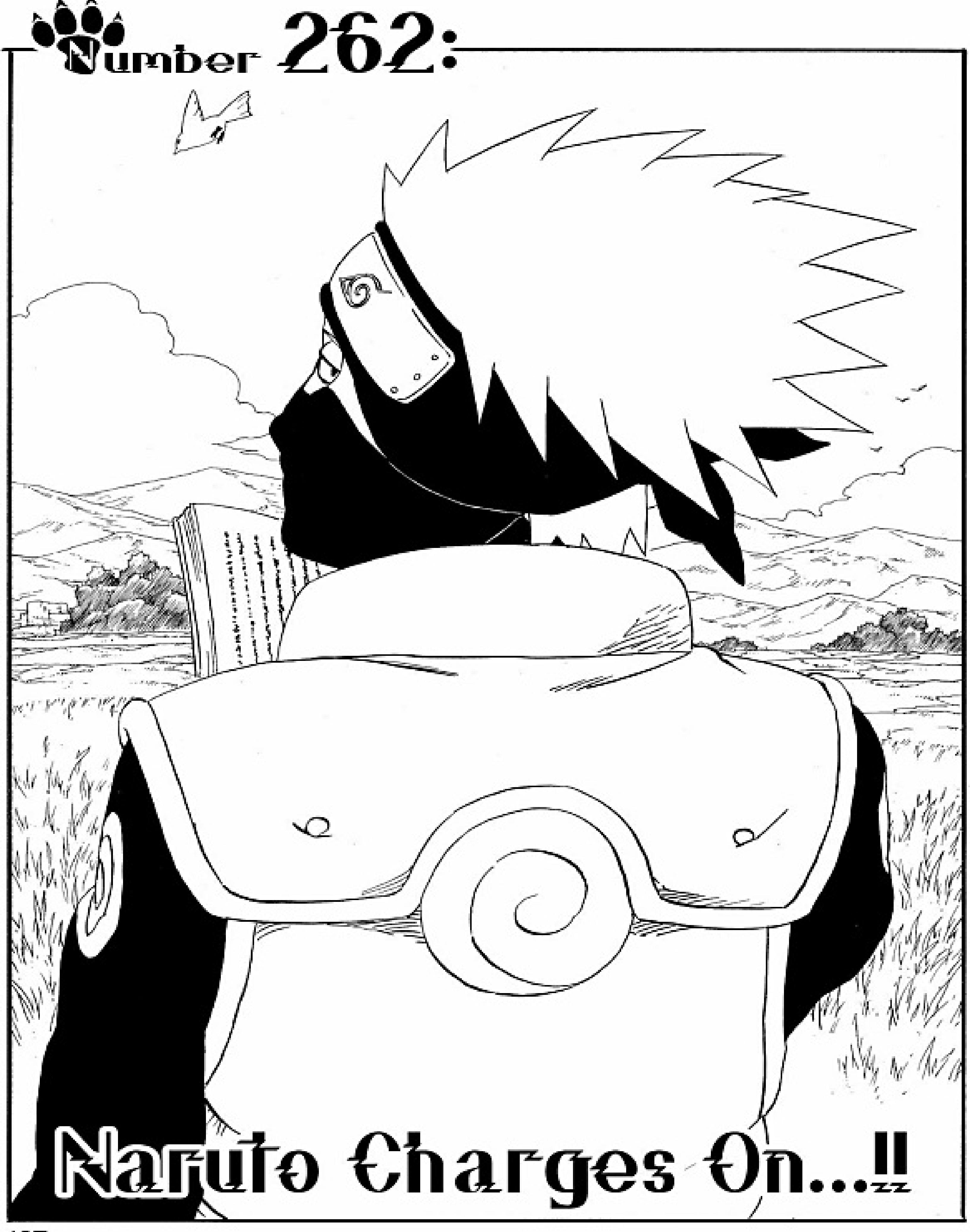

COM-
PLETE.




SHOOM
SHOOM

HERE
!!
SPLASH


NARUTO


Number 262:
Naruto Charges On...!!

WSSH


FWIP


GAARA IS BEYOND THIS ROCK.
!

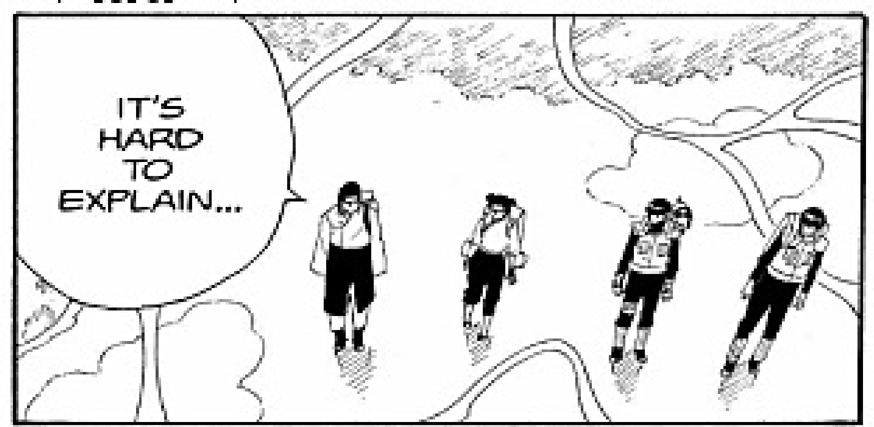

WH- WHAT IS THAT...?
...


WHAT'S IT LOOK LIKE, NEJI?

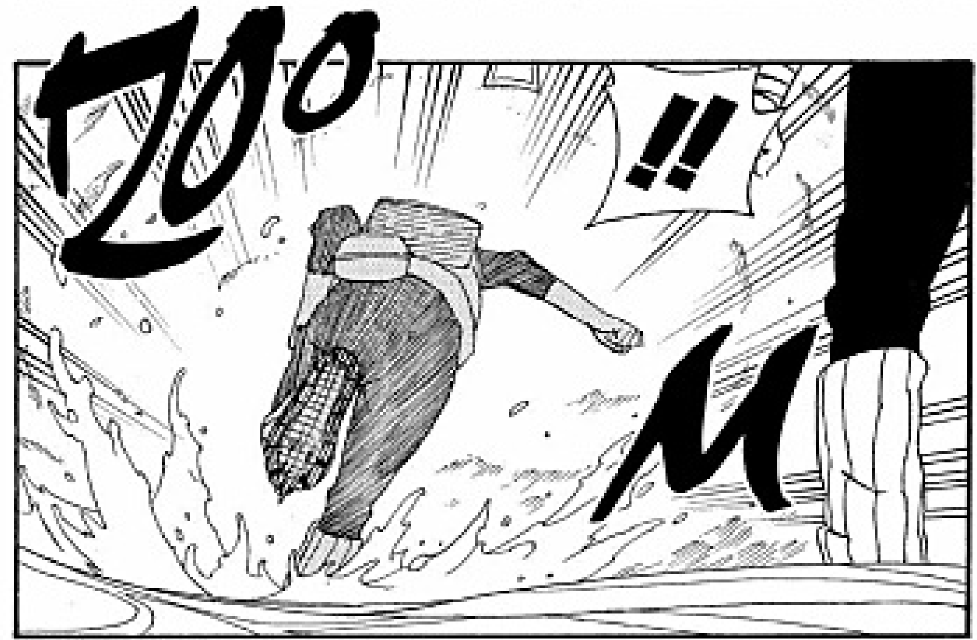

ONG
BYAKUGAN!!


READ THIS WAY


NEJI... WHAT'S HAPPENING BEHIND THAT ROCK?

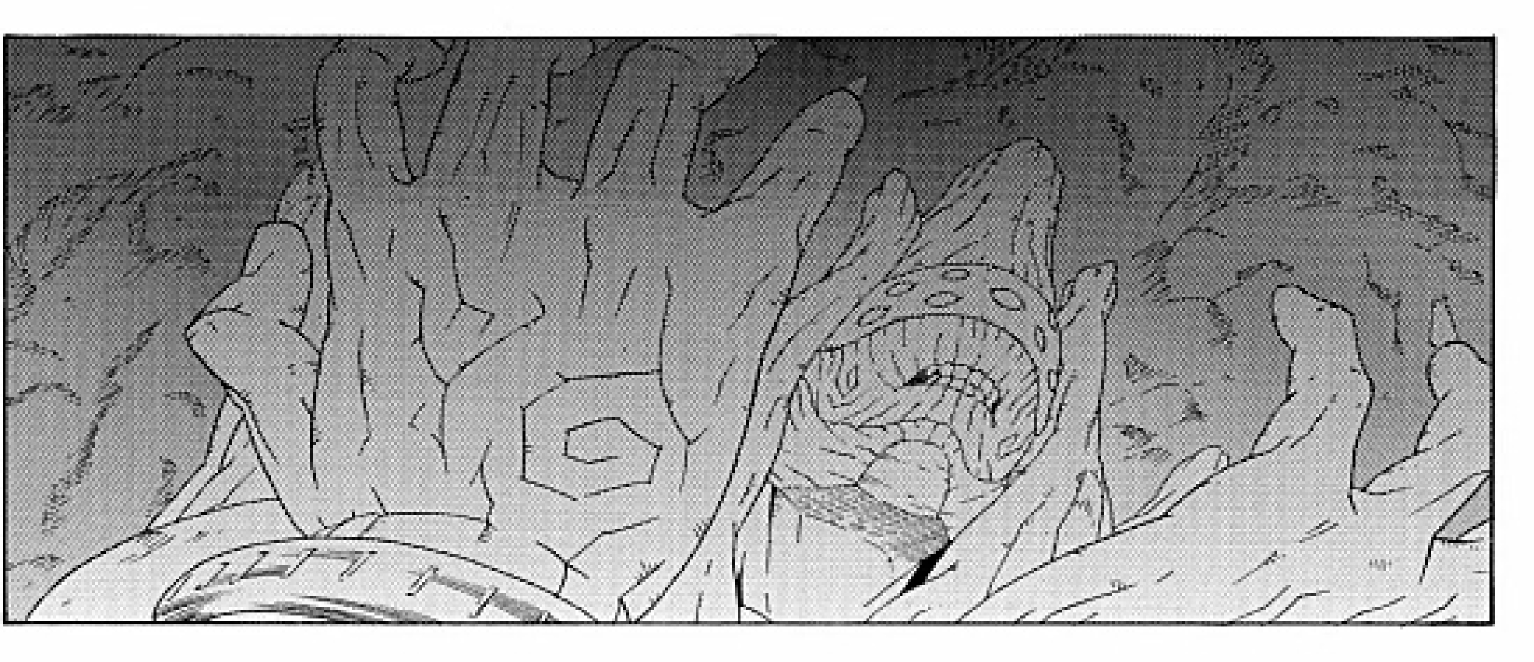

IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN...


...
SHF


ZOOM
!!




A BAR-
RIER
...?




IT'S GETTING LOUDER OUTSIDE.


THERE'S ONE MORE JINCHŪRIKI, ISN'T THERE? HEH HEH...


READ
THIS
WAY

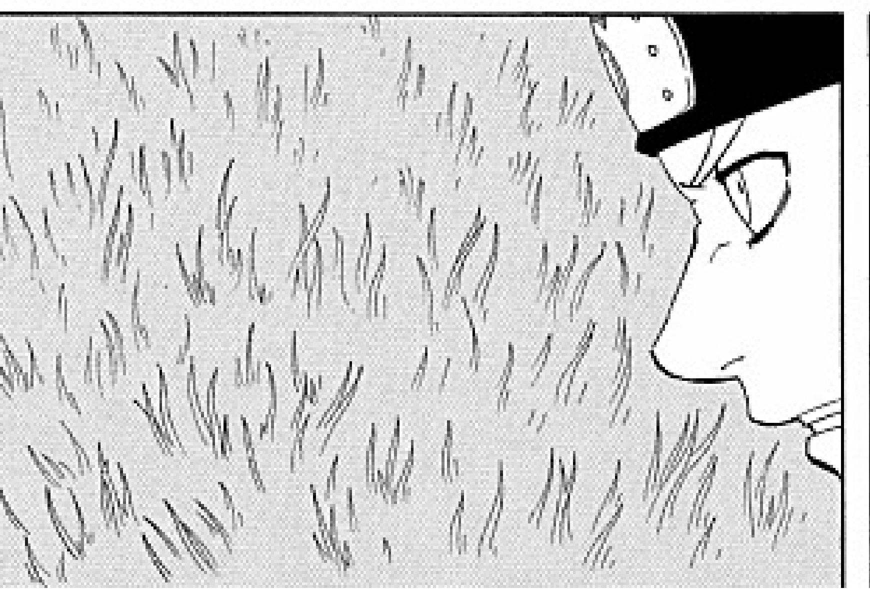

DON'T BLAME ME, ITACHI.

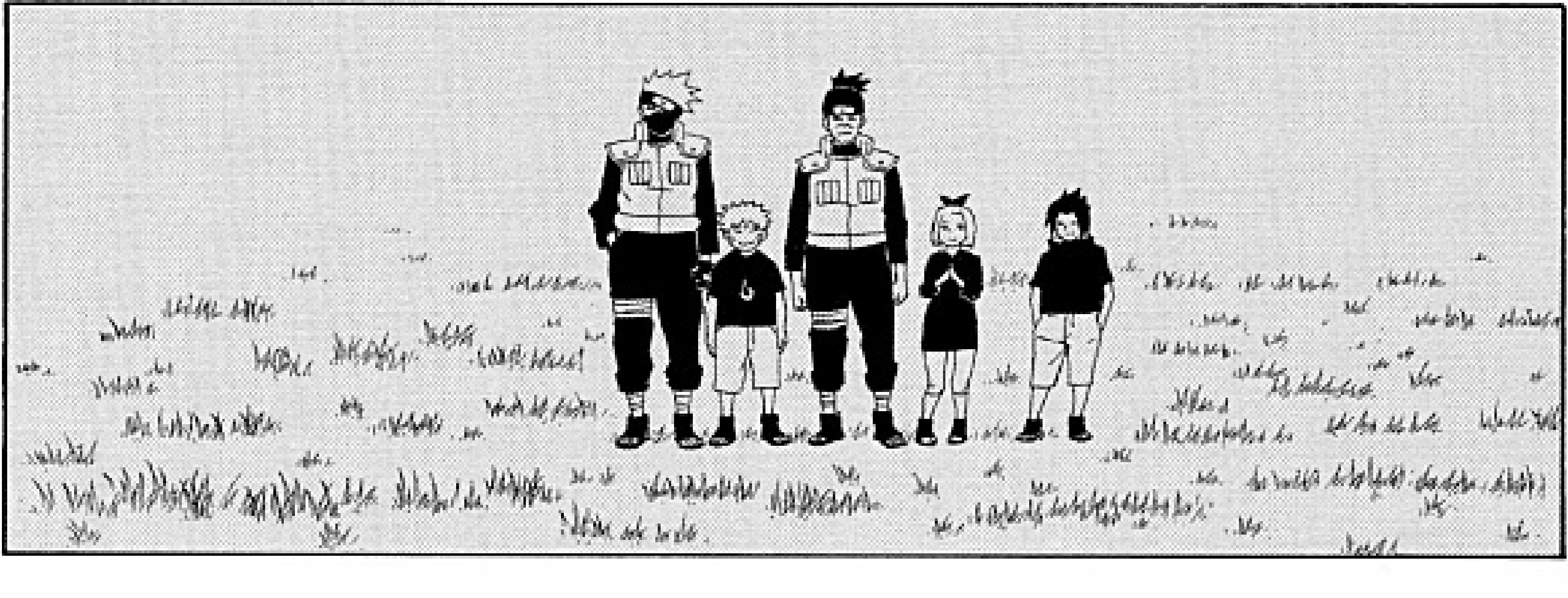

...

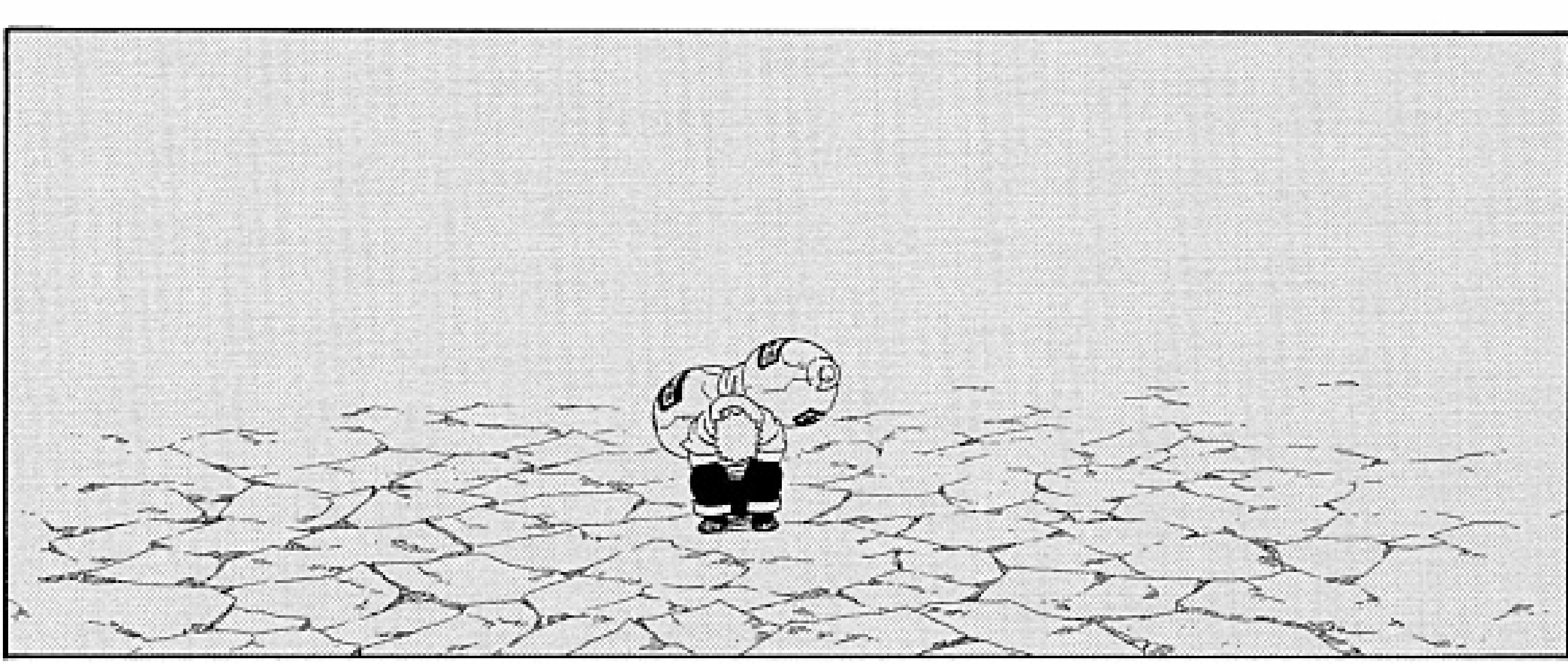


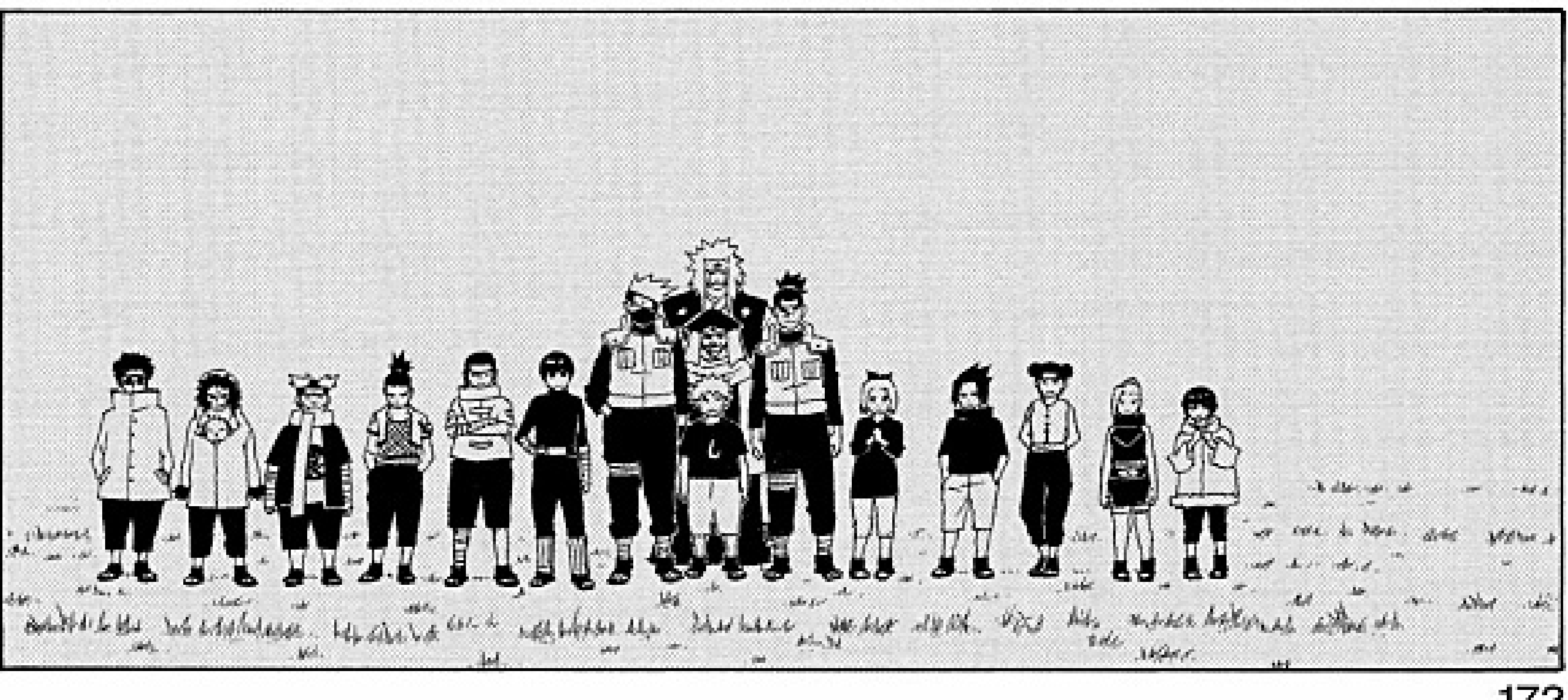

FWOOSH

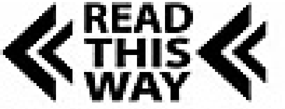


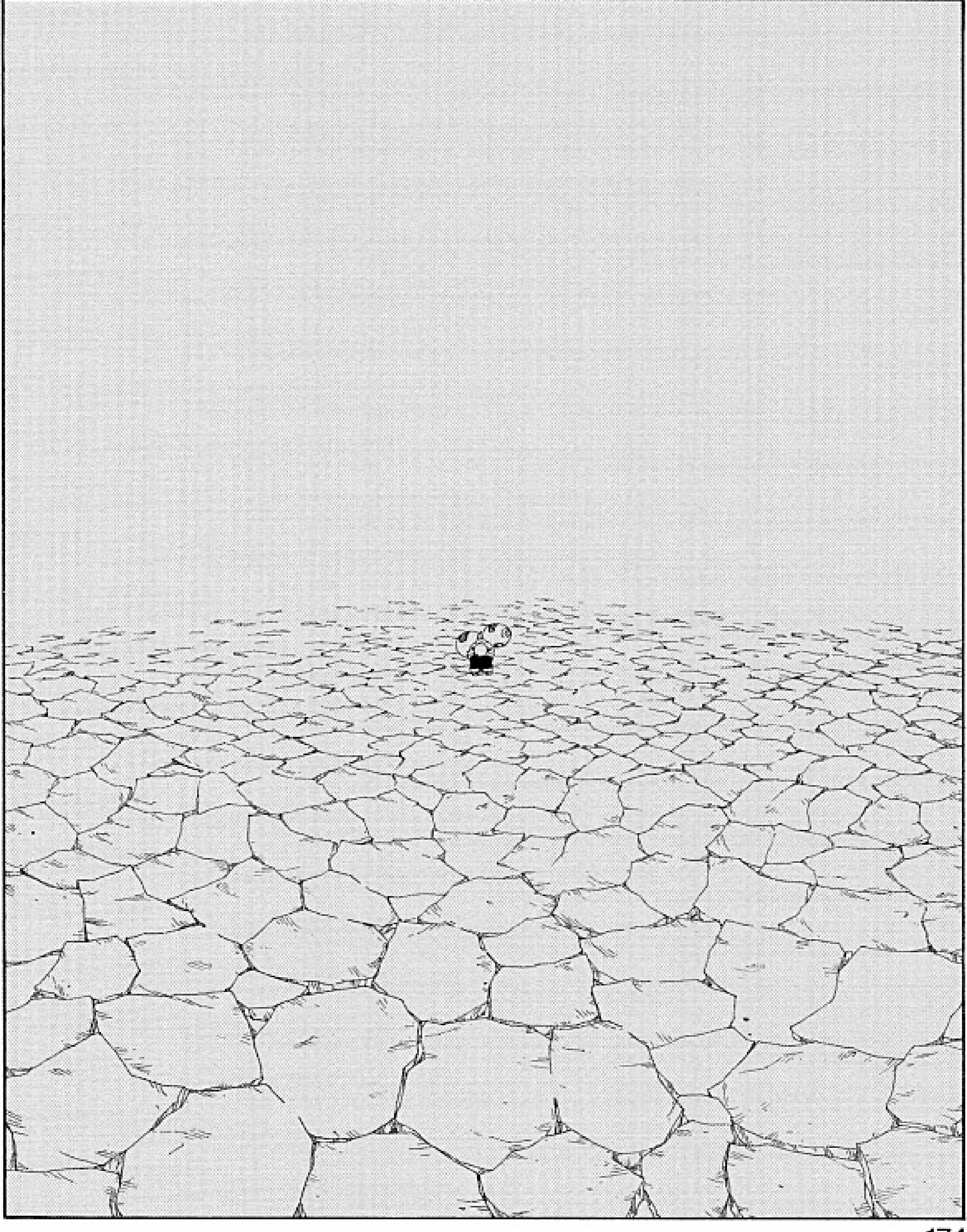









READ
THIS
WAY




READ
THIS
WAY




GRIND


!


ZOOM
TH-
THIS
KID...

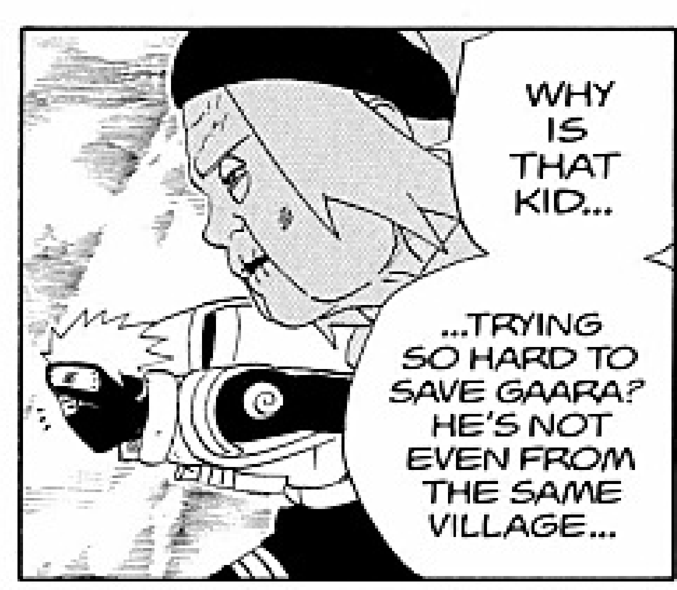

TAK


ZOOM

SHOOM

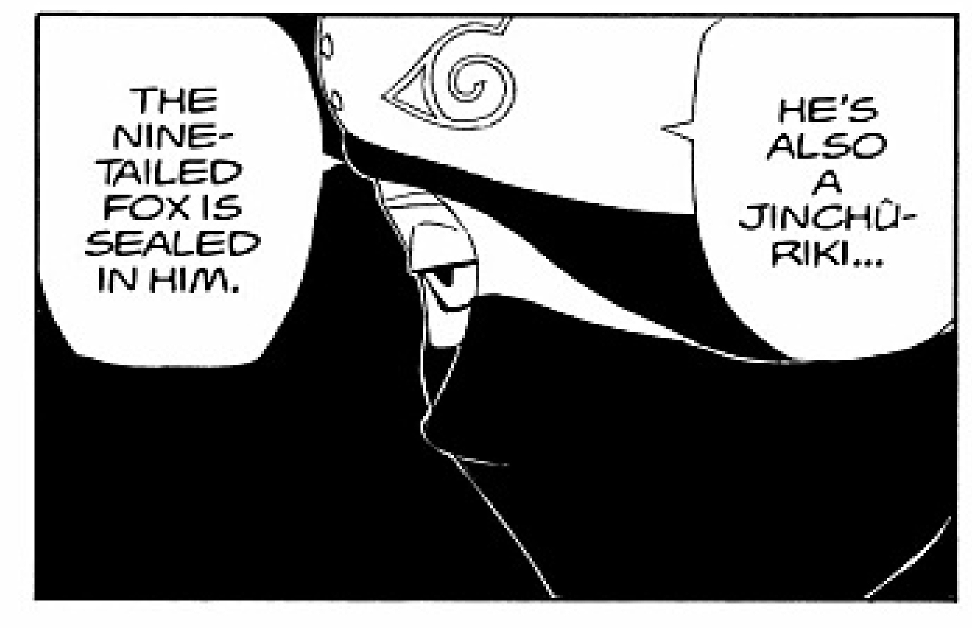
NARUTO! WAIT!

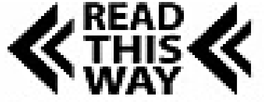


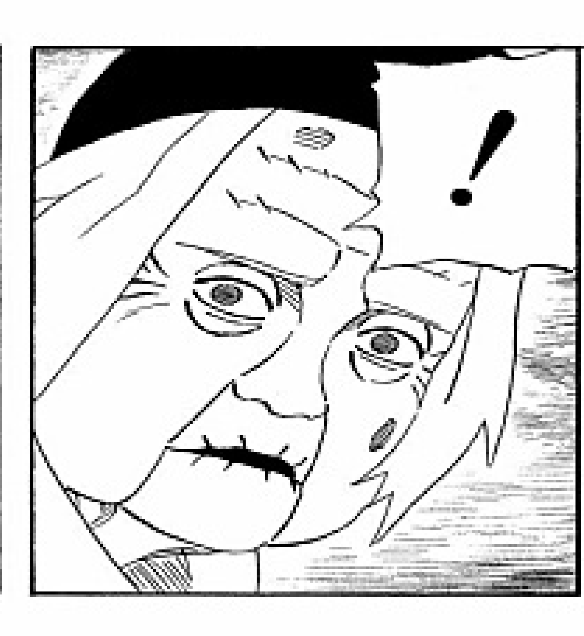








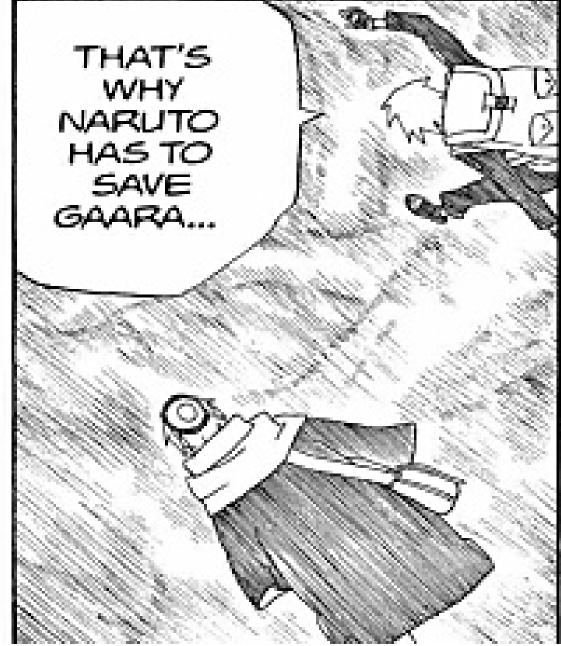

READ THIS WAY

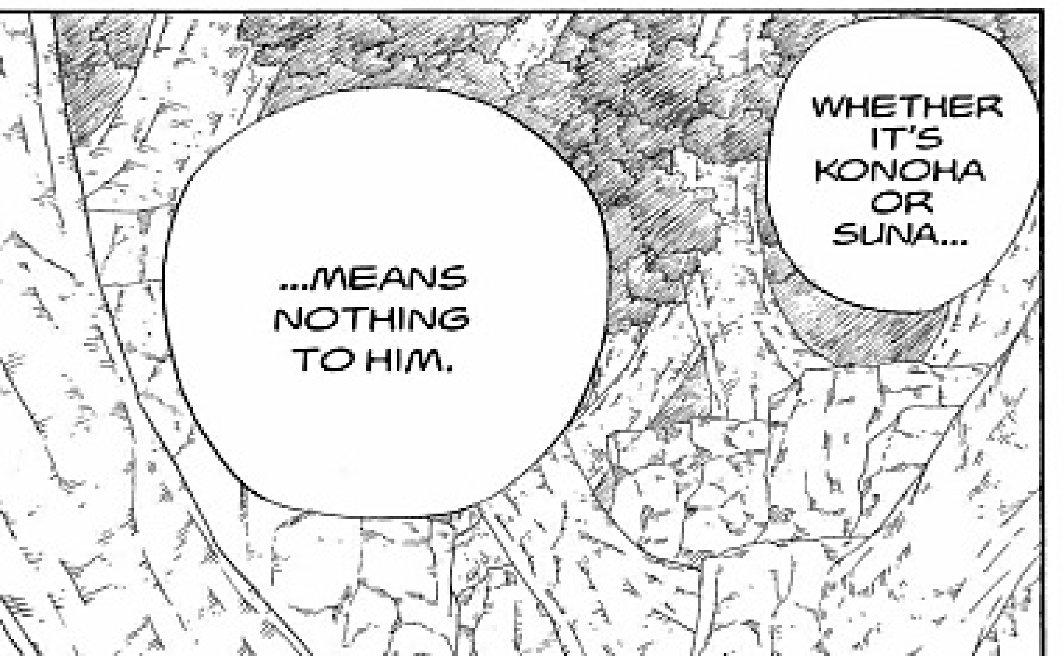

!


NARUTO PROBABLY DOESN'T...
HAVE ANY SPECIAL FEELINGS FOR SUNAGAKURE...
...BUT GAARA IS A JINCHÛRIKI TOO.


NARUTO UNDER-STANDS GAARA...
...BETTER THAN ANYONE OF SUNAGAKURE EVER COULD...


WHEN IT COMES TO HOW JINCHÛRIKI HAVE BEEN TREATED ...
...ALL THE VILLAGES ARE PRETTY MUCH THE SAME.

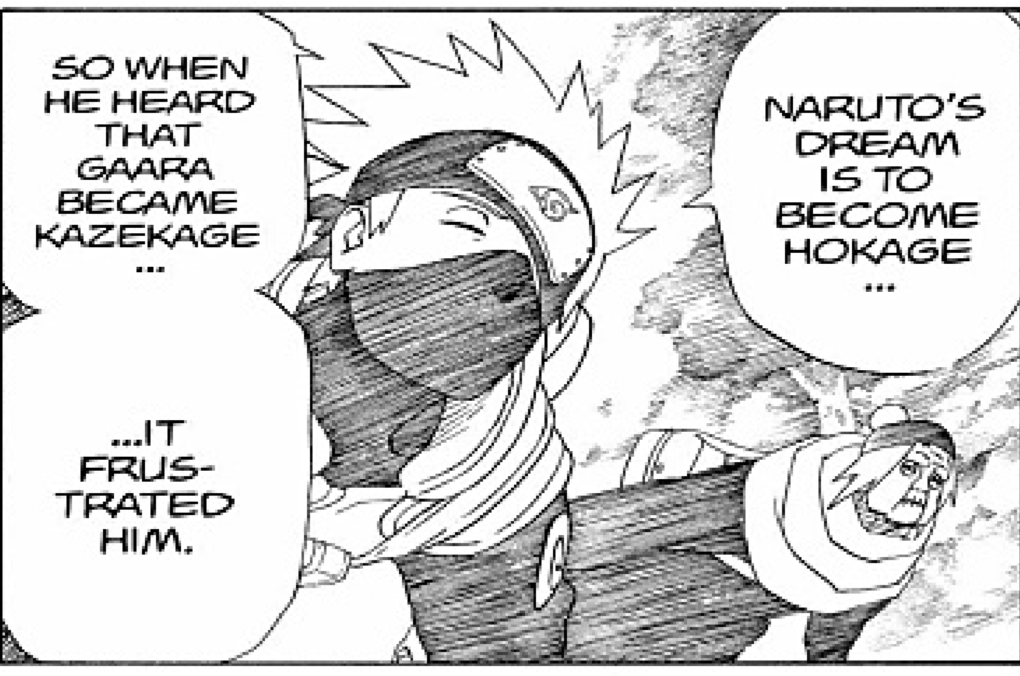

THAT'S WHY NARUTO HAS TO SAVE GAARA...

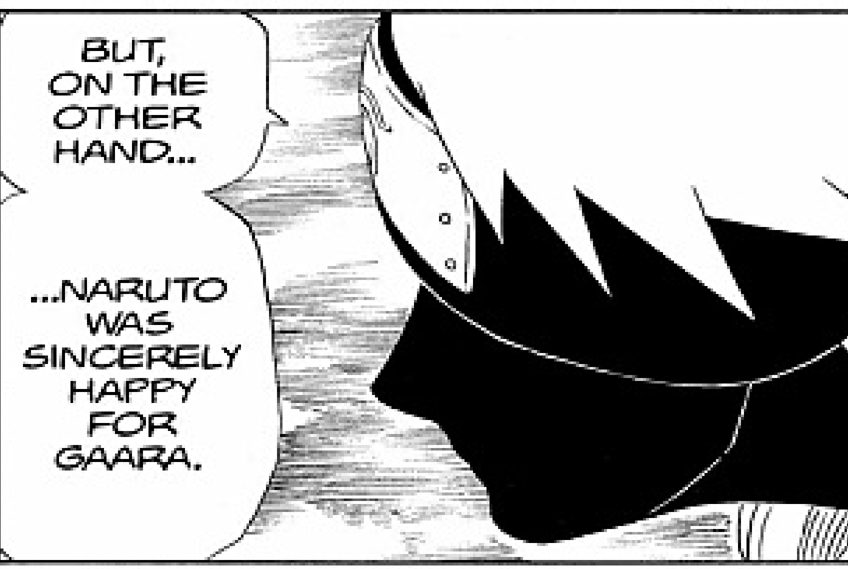

WHETHER IT'S KONOHA OR SUNA...
...MEANS NOTHING TO HIM.

TO NARUTO, GAARA IS...

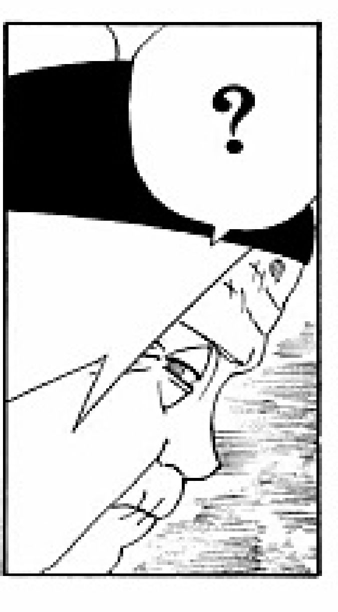
...A COMRADE WHO SHARES HIS PAIN.











WITHOUT EXCHANGING MANY WORDS...
...HE CAN STRIKE UP A FRIENDSHIP WITH ANYONE...

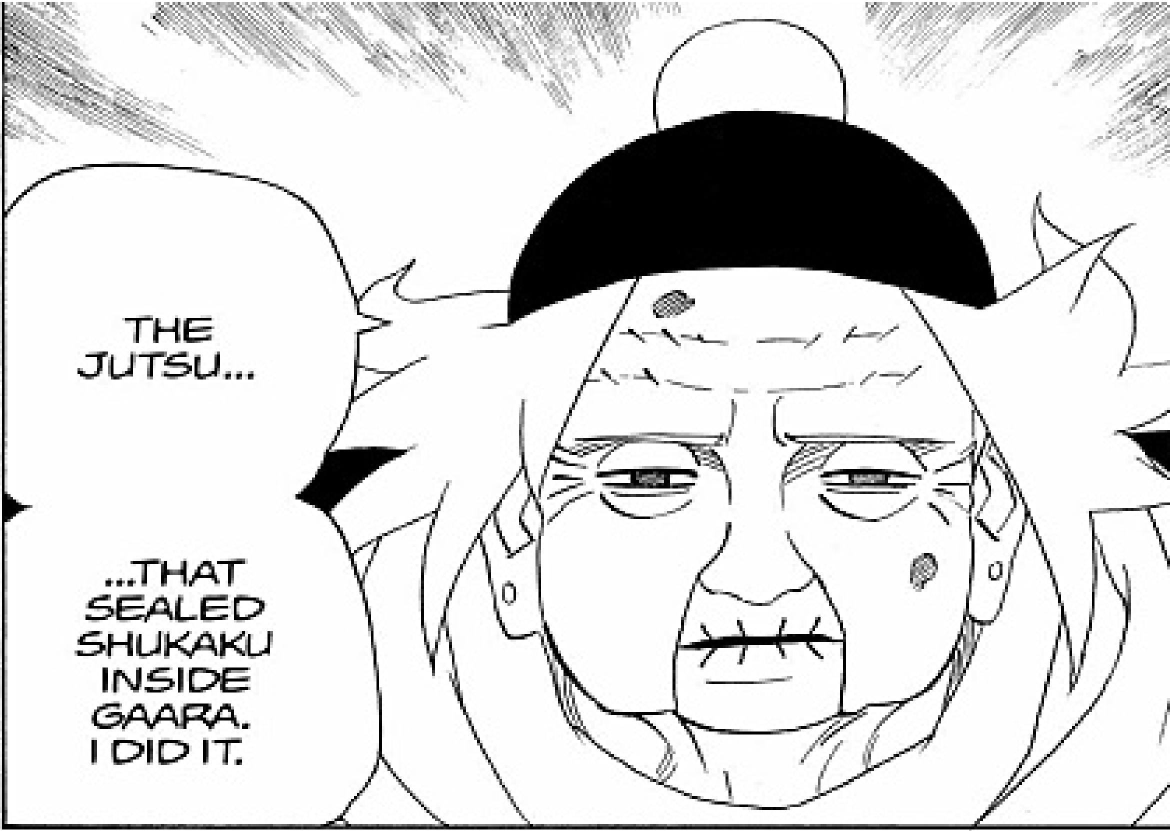

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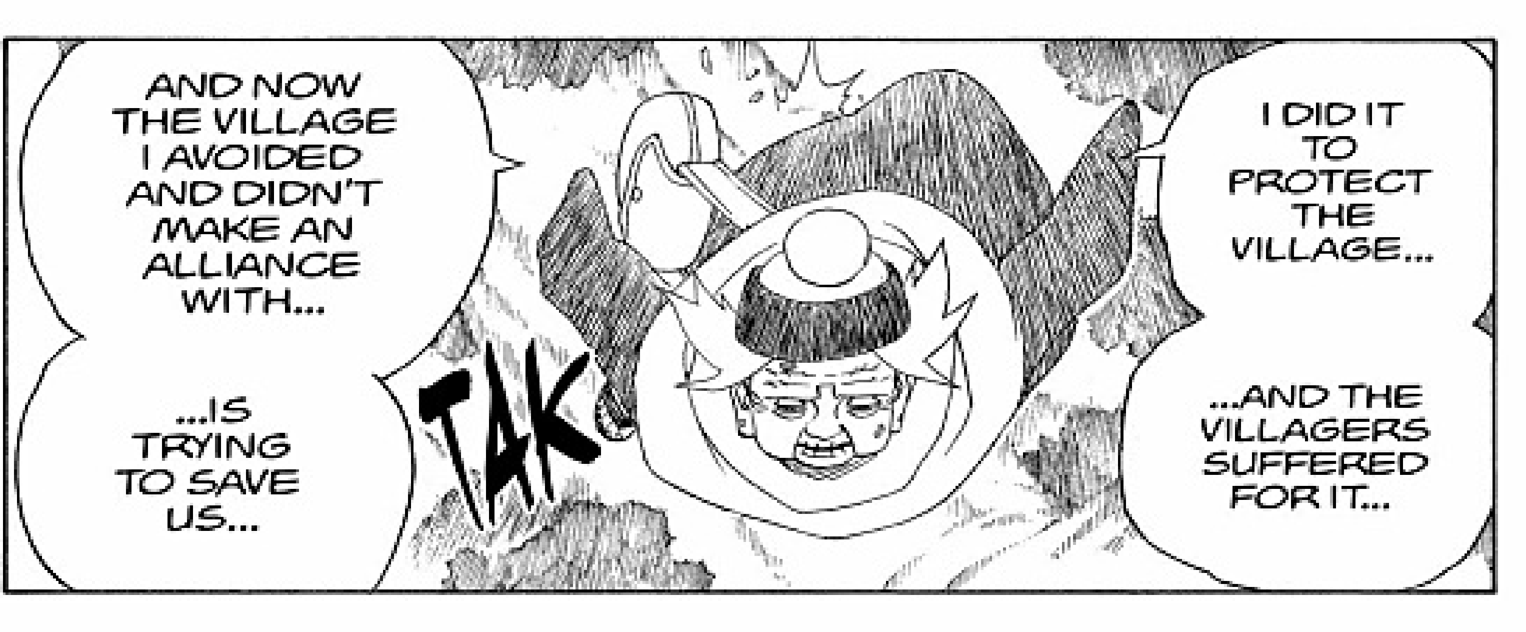

I'VE LIVED LONG...
I'VE SEEN MANY THINGS.
AND I'VE LEARNED THE WAYS OF THE WORLD ACCORDINGLY.


AND BECAUSE I'VE FOUND THAT ALLIANCES WITH OTHER COUNTRIES ARE MERE FORMALITIES ...
...WE NEEDED RESOURCES TO PROTECT SUNAGAKURE.


...
...



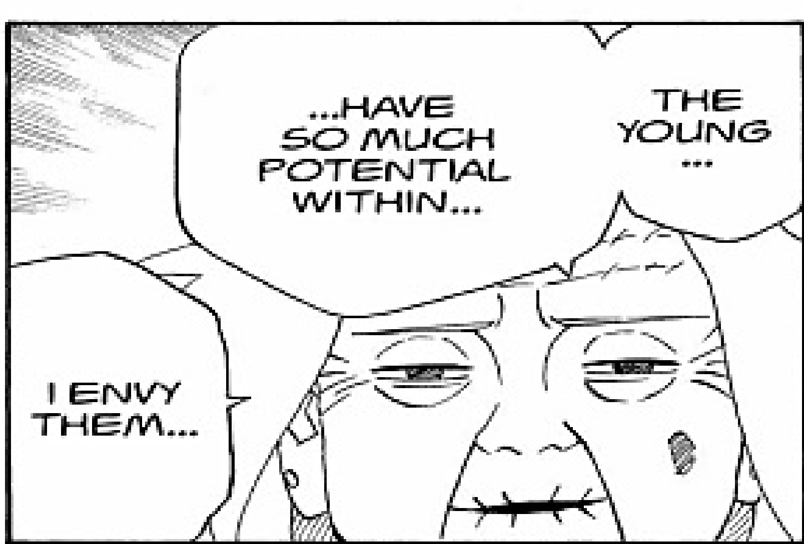

THE JUTSU...
...THAT SEALED SHUKAKU INSIDE GAARA. I DID IT.

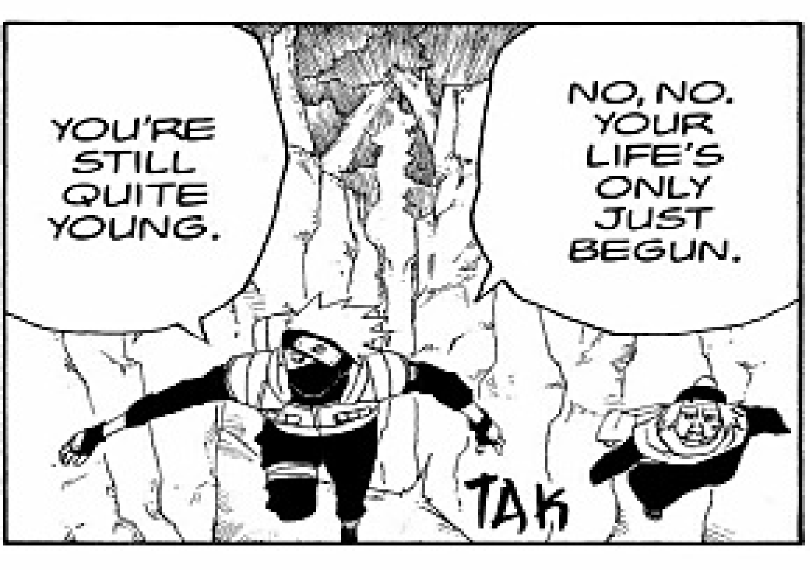

I DID IT TO PROTECT THE VILLAGE...
...AND THE VILLAGERS SUFFERED FOR IT...
AND NOW THE VILLAGE I AVOIDED AND DIDN'T MAKE AN ALLIANCE WITH...
...IS TRYING TO SAVE US...
TAK


ALL THE THINGS THAT I HAVE DONE...
...MAY HAVE VERY WELL BEEN MISTAKES...
EVEN WORSE, I'VE BECOME DECREPIT AND STARTED GIVING UP ON THINGS EASILY...


...


KAKASHI...
!


THE YOUNG ...
...HAVE SO MUCH POTENTIAL WITHIN...
I ENVY THEM...

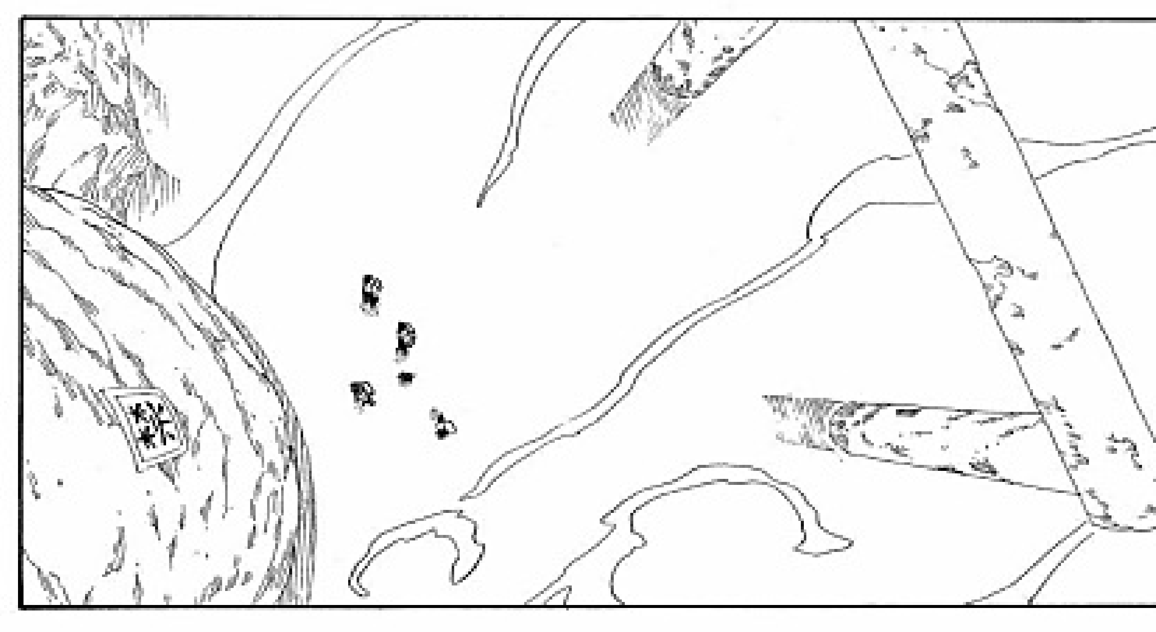

NO, NO. YOUR LIFE'S ONLY JUST BEGUN.
YOU'RE STILL QUITE YOUNG.
TAK


WAH HA HA HA!




THAT'S TRUE...
THERE MAY STILL BE SOMETHING I CAN DO...

...STILL SOME-THING I CAN DO...









FSSH

!

IT'S A FIVE SEAL BARRIER.












SHP
YEAH
OKAY! LET'S DO THIS, KAKASHI!
YEAH!
TO BE CONTINUED IN NARUTO VOL. 30!


HEY!!
YOU DON'T MEAN ME, DO YOU, KAKASHI?
... NARUTO ...
EVERY-ONE'S HERE.
SO YOU ARRIVED AHEAD OF US!
WHO'S THAT OLD LADY?
OH...
SHE'S AN ADVISOR FROM THE SAND!
TAK
TAK